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TRACTOR BOYS' GIFT IS IN MEMORY OF SHEENA

Steve and Bethan Davies present the cheque to Catrin Hall. (Photograph by Glyn Evans.

THE Tractor Boys of Aberthin held a presentation evening at the Farmers Arms, Aberthin, on Monday, February 13.

The main event was the presentation by Steve Davies and his daughter Bethan, on behalf of the Tractor Boys of Aberthin, of a cheque for £1,500 to Catrin Hall, from Wales Air Ambulance.

A delighted Catrin explained that new investment was about to take place in their flying fleet which would result in three new helicopters replacing the existing ones.

In addition, a specialist helicopter would be joining the fleet with an on board incubator for babies. The incubator alone cost over £80,000.

Each mission undertaken by the Air Ambulance costs around £1,450 and they are wholly funded by donations, so every penny helps.

The money was raised by a tractor run organised by Caroline and Steve Langford last October in memory of Sheena Davies, who died suddenly last April while out walking in west Wales.

Sheena was the wife of Steve Davies, the secretary of The Tractor Boys of Aberthin. The run was well organised and supported, resulting in the fantastic amount of £1,500 being raised.

Many thanks go to the Caroline and Steve for organising the run, to David and Alison Thompson of Littlehamston Farm for the use of their facilities, and to all those who took part and made donations

To date, over £5,300 has been raised for the Wales Air Ambulance in Sheena's memory.

Steve, Angharad and Bethan would like to thank all who have given generously in memory of Sheena over the last 10 months. She was a much-loved wife, mother and friend and is greatly missed by all.

The Tractor Boys of Aberthin have now raised over £25,000 for good causes during the last six years.

SRD

IS NEW RATES RELIEF PACKAGE ENOUGH?

Government lifeline for high street businesses

THE Welsh Government says it is to deliver a multi-million pound 'rates relief scheme' which aims to relieve the burden on high street businesses.

Cowbridge traders have been at the forefront of a campaign to highlight projected increases in rates after the latest revaluation hit them hard.

And a local businesswoman told The GEM that in her opinion, small Welsh businesses were being penalised for being "on the wrong side of the River Severn and for having a devolved Government".

Last Friday, Welsh Government Cabinet Secretary for Finance Mark Drakeford, announced further details of how the Welsh Government's £10m targeted high street rates relief scheme for 2017-18 would operate.

The Welsh Government said the scheme would support almost 15,000 shops, restaurants, pubs and cafes, including those which have seen their rates increase as a result of the independent Valuation Office Agency's (VOA) revaluation, which comes into effect on April 1.

Eligible retailers will receive up to £1,500 off their non-domestic rates bill if they have a rateable value of £50,000 or less in the 2017-18 financial year.

There will be two tiers of relief available.

The first tier of relief will apply to high street retailers with a rateable value of between £6,001 and £12,000 who are already receiving either small business rates relief or transitional rates relief. They will receive a reduction in their rates bill of £500 or, if their bill is less than £500, it will be reduced to nil.

The second tier of relief will apply to eligible high street retailers with a rateable value of between £12,001 and £50,000 which are experiencing a rates increase from April 1. These ratepayers will receive a reduction in their rates bill of £1,500.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

Samantha B
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- Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address and a contact telephone number.

An email address alone is not sufficient!

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

'Brexit: bring back common sense'

CLEARLY, Mr Ian Perry has a different view on the merits of post-Brexit Britain to myself and over 17 million British voters; and I've no intention of re-running the debate as to whether we should leave the EU or remain, as that debate has long since ended – and Britain democratically decided that leave was the way to go.

Yes, the Vale did vote narrowly to remain, but the EU referendum vote in the Vale was almost identical to that of the vote for the installation of the Welsh Assembly, but we never saw riots and protests over that one. What's changed?

Following the referendum, those of us who voted to leave have got used to being called stupid, illiterate, and even racist, by those people who think that their opinion is the right one – better than ours. Those 'with money' are using it to try to overturn our democratic choice.

Democracy results in one side winning, and one losing; but a democratic decision has been made and now we must go forward as a united Britain playing its part in the world. No longer are we just part of a super-state.

Mr Perry is of the impression that our young people will be disadvantaged by Britain's departure from the EU; but while I don't have a statistics at my disposal, I beg to differ. Youth unemployment in Great Britain, according to stats, stands at 12.9 per cent and while this in itself is shocking and more should be done to support NEETS, this figure is lower than most EU states.

Belgium, for example, home of the EU has a youth unemployment rate nearly 10 per cent higher, at 21.2 per cent. France, currently a pinnacle of the EU, has a youth unemployment rate even higher at 25.8 per cent.

Here in Britain, the world is lining up to make post-Brexit trade deals with us, and the economy is growing – and according to the BBC, leaving the EU will create 400,000 jobs. To quote the former leader of UKIP, Nigel Farage or Gordon Brown, who made the quote first, this should be 'British jobs for British workers'.

As for studying at university (a subject very close to my heart, working as I do as a lecturer in one), it is my understanding that our young people will be able to study overseas – just the same as overseas students will still be able to study at universities in the UK.

The uni where I work has a high percentage of international students, and we welcome them. Our young people will still be able to live, work and study across the world – just as they did before there was an EU to leave.

As for President Trump, he has indeed supported Brexit. This is because the US election and the EU Referendum had a lot in common. Both were David and Goliath fights between the established political 'elite' and the working person.

While President Trump may not be to everyone's taste, one thing is sure; he will certainly put his people first, and this is what our leaders here in Britain should start doing, too.

No more international aid for pensioners in China, while our pensioners freeze to death, alone.

Let's bring back some common sense to our country – please.

Ade Pitman, Barry.

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'THE T9 BUS SERVICE IS A *NATIONAL* ISSUE'

I CAN readily understand the underlying reasons why persistent 'local' critics react in the way they do when expressing their concern at the usage of the T9 Airport service bus.

However, I would suggest that these critics should address the bigger picture.

Vincent Bailey (Dyfan Conservative candidate), seems to be giving the misleading impression that 'local' residents would be better served if this 'luxury of a regular bus service', in a substitute form, was provided for the benefit of the communities in the Vale.

It seems, he, and others, are tending to lose sight of the fact that the provision of the T9 service is not, *per se*, a local issue. This service is provided for the wider communities of Wales and its visitors to the airport, and not just for the exclusive use of the communities that straddle along the Port Road corridor route to our capital.

A national airport without a facility of a regular shuttle service to its capital city is a nonsense and is hardly compatible with the potential for promoting a thriving airport.

Consider what the Bristol airport authorities did when the Welsh Government bought out Cardiff Airport from private ownership. They panicked, knowing full well the financial importance to their airport of maintaining the existing levels of Welsh passengers.

In the knowledge of this, they provided, for the first time, a regular shuttle service between its airport and Swansea. They didn't seem to care much about this convenience being readily available to the Welsh public before this time.

Neither did they seem to regard the cost of providing this service, involving a much longer journey, as being prohibitive – or that it could prove to be economically unsound.

The silence of criticism from Welsh 'local' sources on this cynical Bristol development has been deafening.

The Welsh Government, *inter alia*, is in the business of providing a viable and essential air service facility for the better prosperity and convenience of Wales and its citizens.

In contrast, the failed former private ownership of Cardiff Airport could hardly lay claim to having shared these benevolent aims.

D Williams, Rhoose.

'Phantom passengers'

ONCE more we are told about the growing number of passengers on the T9 bus, or as some call it, the 'M' T9. *('T9 bus service is on the up, according to Welsh Government' – The GEM, February 16).*

I'm finding the data difficult to reconcile, so I asked the Wales Government for the figures.

The largest number of passengers was during October 2015 – 22,258 during the Rugby World Cup. That's an average of 718 for each October day, ie 21 passengers per bus!

The average for 2015/16 was 387 per day, or 11 per bus, bank holidays and the leap year are included in my calculation.

I've never seen more than two passengers on a bus, so I'm left wondering how can these numbers differ so much from what I, and everyone else I know, witness each day.

Comments on social media and some in The GEM refer to airport staff and hotel guests using the service and something about an automatic passenger count.

Could the bus driver, getting on and off, be included in the automated counting process?

Dennis Harkus, Barry

Not a red letter day

WALKING up Holton Road, Barry, at 8.47am and passing Kendrick Road, I thought to myself, where on earth can anyone picking up a parcel, park their vehicle? The car park was full (two post office vans were parked there) and the road was taken up by all the post office vans parked outside and not inside their depot.

Mr C F Nowell, Barry.

T9 bus 'not viable'

WITH regard to the article in last week's paper, the statement from the Welsh Government boasts that the number of passengers using this bus has gone up to 13,200.

Let's look at these figures without any political spin – 13,200 multiply by 12 divided by 366 (Leap year) divided by 34 journeys daily – this gives an average of 1.27 passengers per trip.

To any business, this is just not financially viable. Stop it now and put the money to better use (the NHS).

D Coles, Barry

Parliament is for the majority vote

IN reply to John Lewis's letter of February 16, he says that Parliament is not there just to obey 17 million Brexiteers.

However, that is EXACTLY what it is there for. In referenda and elections through the ages, Parliament has rightly done the bidding of the majority of voters.

Those who are ineligible, or too apathetic to vote are, quite properly, not counted.

As for Nigel Farage, people might not choose him as a friend, but at least he doesn't couch his views in politic-speak – and he is not afraid to confront his peers.

If people are insulted or antagonised by that, so be it.

Gerwyn Thomas, Llantwit Major

'Waiting for action' despite reminders to the council

FOLLOWING Coun Burnett's article in The GEM on February 2, on how we should judge Vale councillors, I would like to respond.

Yes, people do want elected representatives "who will work with them for months or years without giving up, to fight a damaging planning proposal, or find a solution to a problem."

Unfortunately, this does not include you, your colleagues, or officers who worked against my neighbours and me in Millbrook Heights to ensure the Chapters development at Dinas Powys went ahead on the hill above our homes.

It first grew from an original seven-house plan to nine. This triggered the council's requirement for 40 per cent affordable homes.

Then the council accepted the developers' plea for two more houses to make the project viable – from seven to 18 on the same plot – which we were told wouldn't make any difference.

Try putting 18 dinner plates on a table planned for seven!

Before the original Ardwyn house was fully demolished, the developers' contractors left mains water running on site over a weekend, creating a lake.

The only escape for the water was down through our gardens, destroying the banked landscaping and walls.

What did our elected representatives say? "That's not our problem. That's between you and the developers to sort out."

Thankfully, the developers did rectify the problem.

So what are the council's building inspectors supposed to do?

Certainly not oversee construction, or they'd have noticed the three houses overlooking our properties are all built in the mirror image of the plans and the designs of the atriums changed.

In fairness, the planning committee, of which Coun Burnett is a member, did insert several conditions when allowing the developers to extend:

To ensure our privacy was kept and the new homeowners could not look into our homes, no windows above first floor – the developer put them in.

Trees of at least three and a half metres planted before the growing season and a fence with trellis to block the sight line into our homes; 18 months later, we're still waiting, even though I have sent reminders to the council.

Sue Palfrey, Dinas Powys.

Coun Lis Burnett responded:

Planning is a quasi-judicial function of the council, governed by planning legislation and policy, which can change over time.

For example, I understand the policy on affordable homes would now be applicable on a development in that location from one unit upwards.

I am pleased that Ms Palfrey recognises that the planning committee were mindful of the issues related to the development, and did apply conditions to the approval, although there appears to be confusion with regards to the role and function of the council's building control team.

I am aware that the planning enforcement team have been involved in the development.

My comment in relation to the role of the local member was in relation to my support for residents in my ward for three years before finally overcoming an application.

I cannot comment on the actions of her local members, as they are not Labour councillors.

If there is any aspect of this case that Ms Palfrey would like to discuss in greater detail, I would be happy to meet her.

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Rotary Club whisks young chefs to finals

Cowbridge young chefs Hope Wilkinson and Edward Thomas receive their prizes.

YOUNG chefs from Cowbridge took first and second place in the southern Wales final of the Rotary International Young Chef Competition which took place in the kitchen at Maes-ydderwen Comprehensive School on February 8.

Six young chefs from the Vale of Glamorgan and Swansea areas had to create, in two hours, a three-course meal for two with a total ingredient cost under £15.

The overall winner was Hope Wilkinson from Cowbridge Comprehensive School, who prepared the following menu: *Starter – Warm Scallops, Prawns, Squid and Mussels in Lemon Butter and Parsley Sauce; Mains – Pan-fried Duck with Mango Salad and Fondant Potatoes; Dessert – Chocolate Tiramisu with Shortbread Biscuits*.

The runner-up was Edward Thomas, who is also a pupil at Cowbridge Comprehensive School. Liz Davies, Rotary Assistant governor for the area presented the prizes, and certificates were presented by the President of Swansea Valley Rotary Club, Grey Phillips.

Hope Wilkinson will go on to compete in the southern Wales final which takes place in Cowbridge on Saturday, March 4.

The competition judge said: "All the competitors showed a very high standard of cooking skills that would do justice to a professional kitchen. It is wonderful to see such talented young chefs."

Reader spots large load in Cowbridge

This large load was snapped by Siân Vaughan in Cowbridge, last week.

I THOUGHT GEM readers may like to see this photo of an abnormal load that came down the Llantwit Major Road and turned right, as if to go down Cowbridge High Street.

This was on Thursday, February 16, at about 10.30am.

The lorry driver then reversed up the Westgate end of the High Street to go under the bypass – quite a feat – cutting up a grass verge and almost demolishing a lamp post.

It looked as if the load was then on the way to the A48, heading in the Cardiff direction.

Cowbridge High Street just cannot take this type of traffic and we can all look forward to more disruption and delays as more construction traffic will be in the town in the future.

Siân Vaughan, Cowbridge.

Do GEM readers agree? Please send your letters to editorial@ glamorgan-gem.co.uk.

'Rate scheme will give vital support'

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Professor Drakeford said: "This new scheme is in addition to the £10m transitional relief scheme, which will also be available from April 1 and the £100m tax cut for small businesses in Wales provided by small business rates relief. It will provide vital support to ratepayers on high streets across Wales and offer these businesses extra support.

"Work is already under way to develop a new permanent small business rates relief scheme for 2018. We are listening to the feedback we have received so we can make the scheme as fair, reasonable and transparent as possible."

Local AM Jane Hutt explained:"The Valuation Office Agency is the statutory body responsible for assessing and assigning rateable values in England and Wales. The VOA is separate from the Welsh Government and reaches its valuation conclusions independently.

"I have been supporting those Vale businesses affected by the 2017 valuation and welcome the good news that a new Welsh Government £10m targeted retail business rates scheme is being introduced on top of the £10m transitional relief for businesses. The high street rates relief scheme is unique to Wales and will provide support to almost 15,000 small businesses in 2017-18."

Ben Cottam, of the Federation of Small Businesses Wales, said: "We welcome that the Welsh Government has made good on its commitment to easing the pressure on high street businesses affected by the introduction of new levels of business rates. We also welcome the Government's engagement with FSB on this issue in recent months.

"We would now encourage local authorities to engage quickly with businesses to ensure that all those who are entitled to this relief receive it as quickly and simply as possible."

Sally Stephenson, of The Pencil Case in Cowbridge, was unimpressed. She said: "The Welsh Government has not taken this opportunity to address the inequality between the business rates systems in England and Wales.

"To put it simply, from April 1 this year, small businesses in Wales will be worse off under the devolved Welsh Government than they would be if they were under Westminster. The situation is even worse when compared to Scotland, where the Small Business Rates Relief threshold is being raised to £15k. SMEs in Wales are being left behind.

"During the Welsh Assembly elections last year, one of Welsh Labour's six manifesto pledges was 'to cut taxes for all small businesses'.

"Now they are in government, they are doing the exact opposite. Business rates is the only tax which the Welsh Government has the power to change, yet for many it is being increased dramatically.

"We know from discussions in the Senedd that the Welsh Government's justification for not raising the small business rates relief threshold to match that in England is that they need the revenue to pay for public services.

"In other words, small businesses in Wales are being penalised for being located on the wrong side of the River Severn and for having a devolved government. This is wholly unacceptable."

PROBUS CLUB REFLECTS ON CHANGES IN CARDIFF BAY

THE talk at the February meeting of the Cowbridge Pontfaen Probus Club was given by David Crompton, one of the members, who had been the director of engineering operations for the Cardiff Bay Development Corporation.

He had previously worked on the London Docklands development.

He outlined the three integral engineering infrastructure projects in the plan for the bay: the barrage, city link and distributor road.

Warnings that the barrage would produce 'a stinking lagoon in an urban swamp' had been wisely ignored and it had created instead an environment of exceptionally good water quality with opportunities for varied water activities, including power boat events.

It had also stopped tidal flooding and had included a successful fish trap.

Since the ending of the corporation, the plan had led to further developments around the bay,including a large amount of housing, the Penarth marina, a sports village, a white water centre, ski rink and an incinerator.

The bay had also attracted cultural activity – the BBC had established important studios, and the speaker reviewed the considerable amount of public art in the area including statues, abstract sculptures and architectural features.

One measure of the success of the project was the fact that the bay now attracts 4 million visitors a year.

It had been estimated that the financial benefit from the city link amounted to £170 million in the first year after its completion.

Although the third infrastructure project, the peripheral distributor road, had still to be completed, both David and his audience agreed on the success of the bay development and its immense value to our capital city.

If you are interested in joining the club, which meets in the Bear Hotel at 10.30am on the first Wednesday morning of each month, contact secretary Chris Pinchbeck on 01446 773527. **DP**

Bont Faen WI wins a recruitment prize

BONT FAEN WI received a pleasant surprise this month – when they won the recruitment prize for 30 members and over from the Welsh WI.

In 2016 the membership had gone up by 43.8 per cent. One of the members will attend the meeting on Anglesey in April to give a short talk and receive a voucher for £200 for Denman College, *a spokeswoman reports*.

We have to thank our speaker and social secretaries for providing such a varied calendar that has inspired so many new members. This means in July, we can award a full and part bursary for Denman.

The speaker for February was Sheila Pugh, who gave a talk and slide show on the work of the Mercy Ships. Considering the wonderful job they do, it was surprising that few of us had heard of their dedication and hard work.

The present ship, which is moored in Benin, has been donated by Ann Gloag who founded Stagecoach Bus Company. The ship is moored for 10 months then moves to another country.

The whole company is based on volunteers – from the surgeons to the galley staff. The first volunteer was Dr Don Stephens in 1978. The common language is English and they rely totally on donations of money and equipment. They even donate blood on board.

Sheila and Elfed, her husband were delighted to go away with donations from members for £103.49.

This month's social on Thursday, March 2 is a trip to the Bay for 10 pin bowling followed by a meal.

Jane Crowe is tackling a 5k run for STROKE and asked for sponsors.

The next meeting is on March 16 at 8pm in the Lesser Hall when the speakers will be Hand Bell Ringers.

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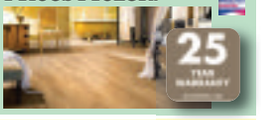

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Eyes down for bingo!

THE next social bingo meeting will be held on Thursday, March 2 at 7pm in the Lesser Hall of Cowbridge Town Hall.

Come and join us, complete with your dabber (obtained from any reputable stationers), bottle of wine (from licensed sellers), raffle prize (from your rejected presents box) and some friends (at the end of your telephone)... See you there! ***BW***

Outline plans for Llanmaes flood scheme are agreed...

An outline design for a scheme to help prevent flooding in Llanmaes has been agreed by the Vale Council, Welsh Government and Natural Resources Wales.

After considering a number of options to address the historic flood risk in the area the construction of a 'flood storage area' has been agreed as the best way to protect properties both upstream and downstream.

The scheme will see a large pipe installed under the main road through Llanmaes. This will channel rain water from the highway into the storage area, an open body of water contained by an embankment connected to Llanmaes Brook.

During periods of heavy rainfall this will fill and then drain slowly in the brook. Once completed the storage area will be maintained by Natural Resources Wales.

The scheme is to be constructed in conjunction with the new 'northern access road' proposed by Welsh Government to the north of Eglwys Brewis Road.

Coun Gwyn John, cabinet member for visible, leisure and regulatory services, said: "I am absolutely determined to see the flooding issues in Llanmaes resolved as soon as possible. Those who have seen their homes flooded in the past should not have to face this threat every time there is heavy rain.

"This project is bound together with the northern access road and so we cannot provide a definite timetable until negotiations with the various landowners and regulatory bodies are closer to conclusion.

"However, I can confirm to local residents that work is well underway on the detailed design phase of the scheme and we expect construction to begin this summer.

"In the meantime, we have commissioned an independent flood protection specialist to provide a free survey to all 'at risk' properties, as well as providing more general advice to help people protect their homes."

School aiming to close 'gender gap'

MEMBERS of Llantwit Major Comprehensive School student council visited Cardiff High School recently to discuss ways of improving both schools' systems.

The main focus was to address the concerning gender gap in exam results at Llantwit last year, although Cardiff High School did not experience this.

The two school councils evaluated measures that could be put in place to solve this problem and improve either school.

Additionally, a brief tour of the school was given and several lessons were observed. Cardiff High are expected visit to Llantwit within the next couple of months.

Dylan White, Head Boy

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SPECIAL MAKE-OVER FOR A PRIMARY SCHOOL GARDEN

LLANGAN PUPILS ARE HELPING TO DESIGN THE NEW ECO-AREA.

PUPILS from Llangan Primary are getting ready to open a newly-designed eco-garden area at their school, after Tarmac cement plant in Aberthaw offered a helping hand to make over an area of the school's grounds.

The eco-garden design initiative has seen 20 pupils, who are all members of the weekly school-led gardening club, and outdoor learners come up with designs for the new area. As well as providing volunteers from the Aberthaw plant to help overhaul the area, Tarmac will also donate materials that can be used for composting and water-butts, allowing the area to be environmentally friendly.

The project is part of Tarmac's year-long partnership with the 120-pupil Vale school, through a donation of £100, which was used to buy wheelbarrows.

The partnership involves employees from the plant volunteering at the school and working with pupils and school staff to enhance both the facilities and learning opportunities.

Sue Stevens, outdoor learning co-ordinator at Llangan Primary School runs the gardening club and the eco-garden, she said: "We are already reaping the benefits of our partnership with Tarmac.

"This help to carry out work to the eco area is fantastic, and the pupils are really excited. Having pupil input into the design phase has been vital – we have had some great ideas that we're sure we can accommodate."

Aberthaw Cement environmental co-ordinator, Kara Bennett, visited the school and said: "We have heard first hand from the pupils about what they want from their eco area, and we'll now work with the school to help turn their ideas into a reality."

ValePlus hands out awards

RECENTLY, Town Mayor Coun Sally Hanks attended a certificate presentation at the Llantwit Major ValePlus outreach centre, which provides lifelong learning and leisure opportunities for adults with learning disabilities.

The certificates were awarded for practical and written coursework the service users have been completing over the last several months.

These courses include WEA YMCA Cymru modules and also ASDAN Towards Independence modules.

ValePlus Outreach has extended its service an extra day and is now open on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

There are spaces available – for further information, contact Angharad Pritchard on 01446 746691.

Marvellous mosaics of dinosaurs and other things...

Junior members of 2nd Llantwit Major Boys' Brigade recently spent a busy evening, thinking about dinosaurs and other prehistoric animals.

Their groups this year are named after these amazing creatures, so it was a great opportunity to find out more about them.

They also made some beautiful mosaic pictures. (***See photograph on page 1***).

We are on our half-term break this week, but look forward to meeting again next week, before attending the Wales Junior Section Board Games Event on Saturday, March 4.

The junior section is now full and a waiting list has been started. If anyone would like to add their son's name, please telephone 01446 796208.

Also, good luck to the four company section boys who are off to Guildford this Saturday (February 25) for the England/Wales semi-final of the national masterteam (quiz) competition. Fingers crossed for a good evening!

Debbie Chapman
Officer, 2nd Llantwit Major Boys' Brigade

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

(PENTREF TRESIGIN) GORCHYMYN (CYFYNGIAD CYFLYMDER 30 MYA) 2017

1. Hysbysir drwy hyn fod Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Adran 84 Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 (fel y'i diwygiwyd) a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill, yn bwriadu gwneud Gorchymyn a fydd yn gorfodi'r hyn a ddisgrifir yn yr Atodlenni isod:

2. Gellir archwilio manylion llawn y cynigion, i gynnwys y Gorchymyn arfaethedig a'r Cynllun Rhif: T/15/51/DH, yn y cyfeiriad a nodir isod yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol.

3. Rhaid cyflwyno unrhyw wrthwynebiad a allasai fod gennych i'r Pennaeth Gwasanaethau Gweladwy (Cyf: IF745) yn ysgrifenedig erbyn 17 Mawrth 2017 a rhaid i chi gynnwys eich rhesymau dros wrthwynebu.

4. Gyda golwg ar Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol (Mynediad at Wybodaeth) 1985, rhoddir gwybod i bersonau sy'n gwrthwynebu'r Gorchymyn arfaethedig fod y Cyngor hwn yn gorfod gwneud unrhyw sylwadau a dderbynnir i wrthwynebu'r Gorchymyn arfaethedig ar gael i'r cyhoedd edrych arnynt.

ATODLEN 1

Ni fydd unrhyw berson yn achosi neu'n caniatáu i gerbyd deithio'n gyflymach na 30 m.y.a. yn y lleoliadau a nodir yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATODLEN 2

Pentref Tresigin

O'r arwyddion porth ar lwybr nesáu'r gorllewin o Landŵ am dua 520 metr tua'r gorllewin

O'r arwyddion porth ar y llwybr nesáu gogleddol am dua 730 metr tua'r de.

Dyddiedig 23 Chwefror 2017

M. E. Punter,
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Gweladwy a Thai
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Depo'r Alpau,
Gwenfô. CF5 6AA.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

(SIGINGSTONE VILLAGE) (30 MPH SPEED RESTRICTION) ORDER 2017

1. Notice is given that the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) and of all other enabling powers proposes to make an Order the general effect of which is as described in the Schedules below.

2. Full details of the proposals, to include a copy of the proposed Order, and Plan No: T/15/51/DH may be inspected at the address shown below during normal office hours.

3. Any objection you may have to this proposal must be submitted to the Head of Visible Services (Ref: IF745) in writing by 17th March 2017 and must contain the grounds upon which you object.

4. Persons objecting to the proposed Order are advised that in view of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 this Council is legally obliged to make any comments received in response to the proposed order open to public inspection.

SCHEDULE 1

No person shall cause or permit a vehicle to proceed at a speed greater than 30 miles per hour in the locations specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Sigingstone Village

From the gateway signage on the western approach route from Llandow for a distance of approximately 520 metres in a westerly direction

From the gateway signage on the northern approach route for a distance of approximately 730 metres in a southerly direction.

Dated this 23rd day of February 2017

M. E Punter,
Director of Visible Services & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps Depot,
Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

PUB CHEF IS FOUND GUILTY OF MURDER

Report by AJ SICLUNA

A PUB chef who murdered a Chinese student in her own home, has been jailed for life at Cardiff Crown Court, with a direction that he serve a minimum of 18 years.

Jordan Matthews (24), who had worked at The Highwayman pub and lived in the Rhoose area for a period, had "ripped out the heart of the family".

Xixi Bi, also 24, was studying in Cardiff for a master's degree in international hospitality and events management.

Matthews beat her to death in the flat they shared in Ely Road, Llandaff, in a "vicious, sustained and prolonged attack," said prosecutor Paul Lewis QC.

Matthews, who had no previous convictions, was found guilty of murder after the jury retired for five hours over two days.

He was described as "jealous, manipulative and possessive."

Passing sentence, Mrs Justice Nicola Davies said the victim was a much-loved daughter, sister and granddaughter who had been described as "lovely, beautiful inside and out".

He said Matthews began his relationship with her in April 2015, and moved into her apartment. The relationship ended with her murder on August 19 last year.

From about 1.30am on that day, he subjected her to a severe and sustained assault, inflicting 41 injuries as a result of dozens of impacts, including three using a rod-like weapon.

Said the Judge: "You broke Xixi's right jaw, fractured two ribs and inflicted severe bruising, which covered at least one third of her body."

In the early hours of August 19, a neighbour heard a male shouting: "Why do you keep doing this?", heard bangs like a thud and a female crying and whining.

The victim, said the Judge, was generous and loving, the daughter of wealthy parents living in China. She provided Matthews, who had nothing, with a home, clothing and a car.

"You took what she gave and introduced her to cannabis when she had been strongly anti-drug."

She said that in the past he had assaulted her and was heard to say: "I don't want to do this, I've got to punish you for what you've done," and threatened to kill her.

In July of last year, she was admitted to hospital with a fractured left jaw.

Post mortem examination, said the Judge, revealed nine previously fractured ribs that could have been sustained at the same time as the broken jaw.

The Judge said that on the evidence, she was satisfied that over a period of months, he regularly subjected her to physical and verbal abuse.

She said he accepted full responsibility for the death and indicated that he deserved whatever sentence was passed.

He denied, she said, any intention to kill or cause Xixi serious injury.

She said he had attempted to adapt his case with the evidence, but the jury didn't believe him and when interviewed by the police he "lied and lied again".

Said the Judge, he had relentlessly and remorselessly inflicted physical injury on a defenceless woma, who was 5'1 tall and weighed just 7st 9lbs.

In a victim impact statement by her brother, on behalf of the family, he indicated that she was in line to run the family company, a multi-million pound concern.

It was stated that her father now suffers depression and locks himself away, and every day it was hard for the family to function. Her mother had threatened suicide.

It added: "The very heart has been ripped out of my family."

Her brother added that no sentence would reflect the pain and heartache they had suffered.

Matthews' counsel, Christopher Henry QC said that the defendant accepted any sentence that could be passed and also accepted his treatment of her was atrocious.

The Judge passed her sincere condolences to the victim's family and commended the South Wales Police team for their "careful and intelligent" investigation.

New landlords at popular Vale pub

JIM AND RHIANNON DOBSON have taken the helm and moved into the popular village pub, The Fox & Hounds in Llancarfan, as head chef and front-of house-manager, respectively.

The couple previously ran the acclaimed Potting Shed pub and the boutique hotel, The Rectory, in the Cotswolds for a number of years, and have also worked extensively in Europe.

Rhiannon is originally from Church Village, where her parents still live, and was keen to return to her native south Wales.

"Running the Fox & Hounds is perfect for us, and we aim to ensure that the pub becomes the heart and soul of the village once more," she says. "Our aim is to create a warm, relaxed, welcoming atmosphere where families can enjoy a Sunday roast, and people can drop by for a good pub meal. The menu includes a wide range of dishes so that people can have a simple supper or a more elaborate meal, depending on what they fancy.

"We have added a children's menu to make the pub more family friendly," she added.

Examples from the adults' menu include: chicken and ham hock terrine with Gareth's piccalilli; panfried hake, roast cauliflower, crushed potatoes and spinach, iced white chocolate parfait, passion fruit sorbet and pineapple salsa.

The children's menu features dishes such as homemade beef burger with chips and salad, grilled chicken breast with chips or salad, and vanilla ice cream with chocolate sauce. There will also be a daily specials board.

The pub will now be open every day, and will serve food every evening, with lunches served Wednesday-Sunday.

The Fox & Hounds Llancarfan: Telephone 01446 781287; www.fndhllancarfan.co.uk

GLASTONBARRY 2017 - *Barry is going to rock around the clock!*

Ross and Matt of Mack Events .

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

THERE was excitement – and cheers – at Bryn Hafren School on Saturday night when the 'GlastonBARRY Live Music Festival' officially announced its lineup for the 2017 event to be held at Romilly Park in July.

In just five short years, the festival has captured the imagination of the Vale public and become a key date in the British 'tribute band' calendar.

The large crowd who gathered at the Bryn Hafren event room were able to hear organisers Matt Blumberg and Ross Mackintosh explain their hopes for this year, and then watch a video presentation of the bands who will play over the weekend July 29 and 30.

The festival capacity has increased this year to 8,000 people over the two days – last year 5,000 people attended.

As the bands were announced on the film presentation, there were cheers and applause.

Ross Mackintosh told The GEM: "GlastonBARRY 2017 is by far the biggest event we have ever done. We're working with the best bands we have ever worked with.

"We have a much bigger capacity, and have 12 of the UK's biggest and best tribute acts plus local support acts over two stages.

"We have kept the prices very low. We have done a lot of research and you won't find a more reasonably priced tribute festival in the whole of the UK! Just to put our prices into context, one of our bands this year is charging £25 to see them individually on their UK tour, with GlastonBarry you get to see them plus all the other bands over the whole two days for the same price!"

Matt Blumberg said: "We are both blown away by the support and response we have had for GlastonBARRY over the past five years.

"It's really caught the imagination of everyone in south Wales and we have people travelling from all around the UK to attend.

"In previous years, we've even had people flying in from California, New Zealand, Spain and Tonga to attend the festival. It's quite amazing."

So what are the highlights of this year's lineup? Well, Prince tribute band – 'Purple Rain'; 11 piece band – 'The Stevie Wonder Experience'; David Bowie tribute – 'Absolute Bowie'; Oasis tribute – 'Oasish'; UB40 tribute – 'Johnny2Bad'; ACDC tribute – 'ACDC UK'; Kings of Leon tribute – 'The Four Kicks'; The Jam tribute 'The Jamd'; Stereophonics tribute – 'Stereotonics'; Bryan Adams tribute – 'The Bryan Adams Effect'; The Verve tribute – 'Verve UK'; Ska tribute - TBC; and back by popular demand from London's West End – 'The Valli Boys'.

Ross and Matt are also promising some special guests over the weekend too.

For ticket information, go to www.glastonbarry.com; call the Box Office at 01446 737339; or call in at The Piccolo Bar, Barry Island.

Economy Secretary Ken Skates (right) at Dragon Studios.

'Will' shooting under way at Dragon Studios

ECONOMY Secretary Ken Skates AM has been in Pontyclun visiting the set of the biggest budget US TV production ever shot in Wales.

He visited the set of TNT's *Will*, a drama series based on the early life of William Shakespeare and met members of the cast and production team.

Will is being filmed largely in Pontyclun's Dragon Studios and is due to broadcast in the US this summer with UK dates to follow.

It is the latest in a growing list of US productions to be filmed in Wales and follows other high profile productions such as *Da Vinci's Demons*, *The Bastard Executioner* and *The Collection*.

It is anticipated that the production, which has been backed by Welsh Government finance, will generate around £18m spend into the local economy.

The first series of *Will* was commissioned following the success of an initial pilot programme filmed in London.

Speaking after his visit, Mr Skates said: "The scale of the project is resulting in the largest local spend related to TV and film production ever seen in Wales, which is great news for the local economy and a real coup for the Welsh film and TV sector more broadly.

"We are continuing to work hard to attract high end drama to Wales with a specific focus on the lucrative US market and the probability of repeat series. I am delighted that Welsh Government has been able to play a decisive role in bringing this investment to Wales."

Ninth Floor UK Productions Limited – the company behind the series – will be based at Dragon Studio in Pontyclun for nine months of the year with location shooting in and around south Wales as well as London.

Executive producer Alison Owen said, "Filming at Dragon International Film Studios has provided many advantages for the production – using Dragon's four stages and its extensive backlot, we have been able to create a whole world in one place.

"The streets of Shakespeare's London spread out on the backlot, while the huge theatre takes up one whole stage. Additional interior sets complete the show's universe.

"Other exterior locations are a stone's throw away, giving scope and breadth to the show's visual landscape.

"The close proximity of so many locations has given us an ease and efficiency enabling us to be ambitious with our show."

Vale AM checks on paramedic scheme

VALE AM Jane Hutt visited Cowbridge ambulance station to learn more about the western Vale community paramedic pilot, funded by the Welsh Government's intermediate care fund.

As part of the pilot, a rapid response vehicle based in Cowbridge has been working alongside the Western Vale GP cluster made up of Eryl Surgery in Llantwit Major and the two GP surgeries located in Cowbridge. GPs are able to contact the paramedic by telephone, if they have a home visit that they feel may be clinically suitable for the paramedic.

Ms Hutt said: "I was very pleased to meet staff at the Cowbridge ambulance station and to hear more about the community paramedic pilot."

Trinity Church plans a 'mega book sale'

ANOTHER year brings another idea for the fundraising team at Trinity Methodist Church, Penarth.

The two craft fairs held last year were well supported and very successful, raising over £1,000 for various charities between them.

This year, the team are planning a 'mega book sale' for good quality used books, to take place in Trinity Rooms on Saturday, April 8 from 10.30am – 1pm.

Benefiting from this fundraiser will be Martyn Joseph's charity 'Let Yourself Trust' which is a partnership trust that helps to provide funds for small projects and charities (both locally and globally), which would normally fall below the radar of big business investors.

To date, the 'Let Yourself Trust' projects have included Zac's Place in Swansea,which offers shelter and supplies to the local homeless; Aida Refugee Camp in Bethlehem, Palestine, which provides musical and cultural items, among many things, to the children, young people and women of the area, as an alternative to the surrounding violence.

Through Advantage Africa, 300 people suffering from life-limiting albinism in Uganda have been provided with sunhats, sunscreen and clothing to protect their vulnerable skin.

These are just a few of the projects ongoing at the moment. Details of these and other projects (and how you can help) can be found at www.letyourself.net or via www.martynjoseph.com

Make a note of Saturday, April 8 for the book sale at Trinity. Nearer the time we will be very grateful for donations of good quality paperback and hardback books if you are spring cleaning before Easter.

ROSEMARY NEWMAN
Trinity Church fundraising team

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Dragon tales, and a banquet

LAST Friday, the nursery children at Llanfair Primary school celebrated their end of half-term topic 'Dragon tales with a banquet'. All the children came dressed as princesses and knights and had a "fantastic morning," it was reported.

Saatchi Gallery hosts a CAVC exhibition...

Some of the art and design students with the Humans of Cardiff portraits

A GROUP of art and design students from Cardiff and Vale College (CAVC) are set to have their work on display at the Saatchi Gallery in London.

The students have been taking part in the 'Humans of Cardiff' project and met local people – sometimes family and friends, sometimes strangers – took photos of them and recorded their life stories.

They then used the photographs to create their own interpretations of the people as works of art which will be accompanied by texts outlining their subjects' stories.

The CAVC Humans of Cardiff portraits have now been submitted to the Saatchi Gallery Schools Prize competition, along with several portraits of David Bowie the students painted to commemorate the pop star's death last year. The works have also been put forward for the Royal Academy Summer Show.

CAVC head of creative industries, Kristen Harries said: "Humans of Cardiff is a wonderful project and I am immensely proud of the learners who took part. To take part in something as prestigious as the Saatchi Gallery schools competition will be a life changing experience for them."

Art and design student Lauren Robins (17), from Barry, said: "I'm excited and also a little bit scared to have my work exhibited in the Saatchi Gallery. I don't really know how it's going to go, but it's exciting.

The students' work will also be exhibited in the Sustainable Studio in Cardiff from April.

Women's Day of Prayer

TWO services are to be held for Women's World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 3.

The first is at 1.45pm in the Salvation Army Hall, Plassey Street, Penarth and the second is at 7.30pm in St Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Edith Road, Dinas Powys, CF64 4AD.

This is an international and ecumenical prayer movement that invites women, from a different part of the world each year, to prepare a church service through which their hopes and fears for their country may be brought before the world.

An estimated three million people in more than 170 countries and islands will gather to use the same service which, this year, has been prepared by Christian women in The Philippines.

The service has been translated into 1,000 different languages and dialects and begins with sunrise on the island of Samoa, then going through the next 35 hours, all around the world, until the sun sets in American Samoa.

In the British Isles alone, more than 5,000 services will be held.

The theme 'Am I Being Unfair To You?' reflects on Matthew's Gospel.

In 2013, Typhoon Haiyan hit the Philippines and the people are still very much in need of prayer.

Everyone is welcome: men women and children.

For further information visit www.wwdp.org.uk

Vale Bridge

THE latest results for the Vale of Glamorgan Bridge Club for February 20 are as follows:

First, Kevin Maddox and John Beard with 64.39 per cent; second, Mia Deschepper and Mike Pownall 58.80 per cent; third, Irene Thomas and Graham Jones, 57.58 per cent.

'Memory Jar' dementia support group to be launched in Cowbridge

A dementia support group is being planned in Cowbridge open to people with mild to moderate Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia, particularly those in the early stages, and also for their carers.

Memory Jar meetings will be held in Noah's Place, Westgate, Cowbridge on the first Thursday afternoon of each month, from 2pm-4pm, from Thursday, April 6.

Entry is free, as are refreshments.

The project is being launched by Madeline Phillips, who was herself diagnosed with Alzheimer's last year.

If you know anyone who would benefit from being part of such a group, contact Madeline on 01446 621838.

Funding tips for local rural groups

CREATIVE Rural Communities (CRC), the Vale Council's rural regeneration team, is launching a 'Community Mapping Toolkit' on March 9, at the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge (from 6pm-8pm).

It will provide opportunities to get advice, tips and support from the team, learn more about community funding available and network with others involved with local activities in the rural Vale.

CRC's toolkit is full of useful tips, advice and worksheets to help you engage with your community. Each group attending will be able to receive a free toolkit. Everyone is welcome to come along and find out more about how to engage with the community.

Coun Lis Burnett, deputy leader and cabinet member, regeneration and education, explained: "The community mapping pilot project has brought people together to champion and drive forward new activities and access funding opportunities.

"I would like to encourage community and voluntary groups to have a go with community mapping to identify their local priorities and showcase the activities in their area."

CRC have been busy over the last 12 months working with community groups in St Athan, Wenvoe, Rhoose and Ystradowen on the Community Mapping Pilot project. Through community engagement activities and community surveys, they have been able to find out what their residents' priorities are arrange local events and activities and apply for funding.

For further information, contact (01446) 709453; press@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

The Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU.

COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303

LLANGAN SCHOOL

CHILDREN from Llangan School had a fabulous time when they took part in the Welsh Schools table tennis championships at Sophia Gardens in Cardiff in February 14.

Llangan came third out of 29 other schools that took part. Comments from other competitors included: "Our children were a credit to their school".

SUCCESSFUL NIGHT

TREOES village hall was the venue for a concert on Friday, February 17 by Ogmore Valley Male Voice Choir.

Their repertoire included many popular Welsh songs and an outstanding performance by two choir members.

A big thank you to all those who supported the event. The profit from this concert (£400) will go to Saron Chapel, Treoes, for the much-needed repairs which should begin in the near future.

CHAPEL SERVICE

THE service which took place on Sunday, February 19 was very well attended with residents from Saron's home village Treoes, St Mary Hill and Llangan.

It was a special occasion for Treoes resident, Mrs Nina West, who this week celebrated her 96th birthday.

GET WELL

ALL members of the Young at Heart Club are sending a message to club stalwart, Jean Thomas, for a full recovery from her illness, following a fall at her Treoes home.

Vale for Africa twmpath

VALE for Africa is organising a fundraising Twmpath (barn dance) on St David's Day at Rosedew Barn, Llantwit Major.

Local band Thingumijigs will be playing tunes on Wednesday, March 1. Tickets, which include traditional cawl, Welsh cakes, local cheese and biscuits, cost £20. There will be a prize for the best Welsh hat.

Tickets available online at valeforafrica.org.uk or at Annette Dobbs opticians, 40 Tynewydd Road, Barry.

Treoes villages raise £2,500 for hospital

WITHIN a few weeks of 2017, Treoes villagers have raised almost £2,500 for charity.

In mid-January, the village held its annual charity event in the village hall and raised more than £2,000 for the Y Bwthyn Newydd MacMillan Specialist Care Unit at the Princess of Wales Hospital. A spokesperson said:

"Thanks to everyone who contributed, especially to Bridgend Fabrics, Terry Reffell, Celtic Tyres and PKS Holiday Villas for offering prizes which were auctioned on the night.

"Thanks must also go to Ogmore Valley Male Voice Choir, which entertained villagers on February 17 and raised £400 towards the restoration of Saron Chapel."

The evening of modern and traditional songs, and comic poetry was enjoyed by all, managed by the conductor Phil Davies and his accompanist, Gareth Waite. Their rendition of 'Hallelujah' was quite exceptional and there was not a dry eye to be found listening to *Les Miserables'* 'Bring Him Home'.

www.glamorgan-gem.co.uk

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'Women should consider careers in manufacturing' says Miss Wales finalist

MISS Wales finalist Hannah Williams has urged women to explore careers in manufacturing.

Hannah, aged 23, works at Sony UK Technology Centre, Pencoed, where she is a sourcing officer.

She graduated with a business management degree from Cardiff University and worked in the medical manufacturing sector before joining Sony UK TEC.

As a vital member of the manufacturing facility, she helps to support the production of thousands of HD broadcast and professional cameras for global distribution.

She hopes other women will follow in her footsteps and consider a "rewarding" career in manufacturing and engineering.

She explained: "Many women may not even think about a career in manufacturing. Luckily I have always been influenced by my family's roles in different business areas. They previously worked in manufacturing in Wales and this is something that I've grown up with.

"Since I have been working in industry and manufacturing I have noticed that although sectors are trying to diversify, it is still proving difficult to attract young women in to science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) professions, therefore the female talent reaching the senior levels is far less.

Hannah Williams.

"I believe there is so much opportunity for more young people to join our industry; I have learned so many skills, and the innovations you get to be a part of are really exciting and rewarding."

Sony UK TEC director of professional services Gerald Kelly said: "We are delighted to fully support Hannah in her bid to become Miss Wales. We applaud her decision to use the platform to raise funds for charitable causes across Wales and to highlight the benefits of STEM and engineering careers for women."

Throughout the competition Hannah will also be supporting the Beauty With A Purpose initiative, which fundraises for disadvantaged children, and helps charities in more than 100 countries.

She heads to the final of the Miss Wales competition on April 8 in Newport.

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Holocaust exhibition will be ending soon

AN exhibition reflecting on the horrors of the Holocaust will soon close at the Vale Council-run Art Central gallery.

The public has one last week to view the exhibition before it ends on Saturday, February 25. Art Central is open between 10am and 4.30pm Monday to Friday and 10am to 3.30pm on Saturday.

Inspired by quotes from people across the world, the exhibition displays a series of statements and artworks by artists, individuals and organisations who have participated in Holocaust Memorial exhibitions over the past 10 years.

The gallery is also hosting an exhibition entitled *'Through the Eyes of Children'* from the National Federation of Gypsy liaison groups.

It tells the story of the Romani genocide Porrajmos, mostly through the eyes of young people who witnessed what happened during that time.

The exhibition follows the stories of Roma children through some of the most destructive events of 20th Century history.

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The council leaves long-lasting legacy for the Vale

VIEW FROM THE VALE

by Coun **NEIL MOORE** Leader of the **Vale of Glamorgan Council**

AS there are elections on May 4, for the Vale Council, this will be my last 'Views from the Vale' GEM column for this term of office. I would, therefore, like to sign off with a couple of my views and information, as usual.

Since being Leader of the Vale Council, I have been really pleased to have been able to make my views known through the pages of this newspaper.

I would, therefore, like to put on record my thanks to The GEM for allowing me to do so. It has been a pleasurable experience and I hope that you have enjoyed reading the columns, too. I know that when I go out and about, many people remark positively about the column.

I hope that my monthly column has been informative and given you an insight into the work that has taken place, which I consider has made the Vale a better place in which to live, work and enjoy oneself.

I believe, that as a Labour-led council, we have done a good job in helping to build a more resilient and stronger community and have left a long lasting positive legacy upon which we can build. There has been a marked difference in the way people think about the Vale since this administration took control and I honestly believe that there is more confidence and pride than was previously the case.

We have been independently assessed as being the best performing council in Wales for the last two years. However, it could not have been done without the dedication and commitment of the staff in the council.

Back in 2012, after the last council elections, the Labour-led council set some very challenging targets and in the years that have followed, the Vale Council has carried out a huge amount of beneficial change.

Improving education has always been at the centre of our vision for the Vale. Over the past five years we have invested £85million in our school investment programme and the fruits of this investment are plain for all to see. We have ensured that local businesses have gained the benefit of the work. There has been a substantial amount of local spend, creating jobs and apprenticeships as a result.

There have been schemes that have grabbed the headlines, such the new £23million Llantwit Major Learning Community, which will welcome pupils to its buildings at the beginning of March, and the £50million Penarth Learning Community, which, since opening in 2014, has gone on to win a string of awards.

There have also been new primary schools, such as Ysgol Nant Talwg and Oakfield in Barry and substantial investments into existing school buildings across the county.

The link between first-class learning and environments and first-class results is an obvious one and I believe it is no coincidence that recent years have seen schools in the Vale record their best ever exam results, with the improvement in some schools truly remarkable.

Plans are also now in place for significant investment to enable the expansion of Ysgol Bro Morgannwg and the creation of two new state of the art secondary schools for Barry to replace the two existing single-sex comprehensive schools.

Regeneration has been at the heart of our policies and the primary theme for all of our work since 2012. Our approach to this has been focused on the premise of 'Building Strong Communities'. We helped to achieve this by investing in the facilities and open spaces that we all share and need.

We have set in train a huge programme of investment in parks and play areas. Many have been completed, some being carried out as I write this column, with more on track, if we are returned on May 4.

In terms of public open space, the Vale already has more Green Flag parks than ever before with nine green flag parks in place.

We have also injected investments into our leisure centres in Barry and Penarth and the successful regeneration of Jenner Park, providing a 3G pitch for community use. This has meant that hundreds of children now enjoy coaching sessions at the stadium each month and to enhance that provision we have begun laying several 3G pitches at the Colcot fields too, which should be completed in a couple of months.

We have also delivered on our promise to bring Cemetery Approach in Barry, a treasured community space, back into use, in partnership with the Labour-led Barry Town Council. Work is now well under way on the new community garden, which will be open for all to enjoy this summer.

Investments have also been made into key facilities such as Hen Goleg in Barry and Redlands House in Penarth. We have recently opened the new 'reablement unit' at Ty Dyfan in Barry, a facility that helps get people out of hospitals and back into their homes more quickly. This is something that is greatly needed, at a time when our health services are under such strain.

Some of the most eye-catching developments of the past five years have come at our tourist resorts. Approximately £1m has been invested in Penarth Pier and Esplanade, transforming the seafront and brought new businesses, as well as a new lease of life to the town.

Further along the coast, businesses at the iconic Barry Island resort are reporting the busiest summer seasons in memory. I am convinced that this has been achieved following the completion of the £3million investment, in conjunction with the Welsh Government, in Barry Island's regeneration.

The upgrades to the Promenade, Eastern Shelter, the coastal gardens and pathways, together with the construction of the multi-coloured beach huts, climbing wall and outdoor theatre space have changed, not only the look of the Island, but also the feel of the resort. This has enabled the Island to reclaim its place as one of the UK's premier seaside attractions.

We will also be upgrading the lighting at the Western Shelter, to complement the lighting scheme in the Eastern Shelter before the summer season commences.

Coupled with that, each summer we have organised the 'Summer Weekender Events' and last year we began the 'Beats and Treats Event ' bringing food and music to the Island in June. This will be repeated this year.

Elsewhere, the work of our Creative Rural Communities team is helping entrepreneurs with their exciting new businesses. Pop-up events are also appearing across the rural Vale via our bursary scheme, which enhances even further what this county can offer for visitors and residents alike.

We have begun building council homes for the first time in 17 years, providing much-needed homes for our residents, particularly those with special housing requirements and there are more to come in the coming year.

I could go on, but this is just a snapshot of what has been achieved since 2012, and I hope that you agree that a great deal has been achieved by this current administration. Much has been done, but be assured that, given the chance a Labour council will have an appetite to do much, much more.

Finally, my best wishes go to everyone reading this column, but please remember to vote in May. Obviously, I would have a preference, but make sure it counts. The Vale's future is in your hands.

Pupils become rock detectives

YEAR-3 and 4 pupils from 14 schools in the Vale took part in a science workshop at Llancarfan Primary School recently.

The science enthusiasts had the opportunity to develop their skills, scientific knowledge and understanding by exploring the topic of 'Earth Science'.

They became 'rock detectives' for the afternoon, testing rocks and minerals and using a digital microscope to find clues about how each rock had formed.

One pupil said: "I loved the investigating because it really made me think!"

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Ramblers encounter drizzle, mist and mud

TWENTY members of the Vale of Glamorgan Ramblers group turned out on a drizzly, misty Sunday, for a local walk led by Pete Lane – details of which are available to download off the Valeways website *www.valeways.org.uk*.

The walk was part of the Six Villages walk in the Vale of Glamorgan, but due to the muddy conditions on some of the paths, the group only completed five.

Starting at Llysworney, the group then crossed some fields to bring them out at Pentre Meyrick– village number two. There was some road walking along the busy main road, and diverting off, we made our way down a very muddy bridleway, before entering village number three – Llangan, where there is still evidence of its lead mining history in the prominent chimney stack.

Leaving this pretty village behind, we crossed the fields to bring us once again to cross the busy A48. By this time, we were fed up with mud (!) so we walked along the road to village number four – Colwinston.

It was a shame that it was so misty, as I'm sure we would have had some lovely views, but it is heartening to see that spring is on its way with the abundance of snowdrops, daffodils and crocus that were everywhere.

Leaving Colwinston behind, we made our way over the fields to village number five, Llandow, before making our way back to the start. The post walk drink was at The Carne Arms.

For further information, visit www.valeofglamorganramblers.c.luk or follow us on Facebook.

Gwenda Fitzpatrick
Vale of Glamorgan Ramblers

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News in and out of class from Barry Comprehensive School

BARRY Comprehensive School is hoping to offer 'politics' as a subject course from next year onwards and has been visited by the Political Studies Association and Alun Cairns, MP, to give pupils an insight into what could be in store for them.

Twelve pupils from the fifth and sixth form (Year 11 and Year 12) sat down for a round table discussion with Mr Cairns and Professor Einion Dafydd from Cardiff University, to discussissues in politics.

The main topic of discussion was Brexit, with particular focus on trade deals. One pupil expressed worries about the British meat market in relation to a trade deal with New Zealand.

Another raised concerns about Ford moving their engine factory out of Bridgend if a satisfactory trade deal could not be made with the remaining member states of the EU.

Mr Cairns expressed his confidence in the UK Government's ability to negotiate a good deal for Britain with the remaining states of the EU, reminding pupils of the UK's trade deficit with the continent and the fragmented nature of decision making within the bloc.

Professor Dafydd gave the alternative view to the pupils, and talked about issues surrounding Brexit from the perspective of the devolved administrations

The Vale MP was also quizzed on his voting record in Parliament, with one of the pupils taking on the style of Jeremy Paxman to put Mr Cairns on the spot about controversial votes in the Commons.

Alun Cairns said: "It was a pleasure to bring the Political Studies Association to Barry Comprehensive so that the pupils could get a taste of engaging with politics before it is available for study next year. The pupils had done their research and asked some excellent questions. ."

Professor Einion Dafydd, lecturer in Parliamentary Studies at the University of Cardiff, said: "It was refreshing to see how eager these students were to engage with the key issues facing society: how those in power should respond to the challenges that we currently face, how we should expect our elected representatives to act, and how Wales should be governed following Brex it."

"The devolved institutions in Wales are becoming increasingly important: they make laws and provide a range public services. It's essential that citizens of all ages have a good understanding of how the democratic decision-making process works."

The Political Studies Association's Interim CEO, Sarah Brown, said: "The Political Studies Association is passionate about developing the study of politics in schools, and I am delighted to see Alun Cairns supporting us.

"Access to those working at the very heart of politics is essential in bringing political science off the page and into the lives of young people." **AC**

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Planned road study an 'insult' *say campaigners*

CAMPAIGNERS for the Dinas Powys bypass are calling the budget and restriction on content of a joint Welsh Government and Vale Council study into transport problems in Dinas Powys "derisory and an insult to the public."

The authorities claim that a fund of £15,000 shared between them both will pay for 'a study analysing the village's current transport network.' The aim, the council claim, is to identify any issues and ways problems might be resolved.

The council have announced the study will be carried out over the coming months, but offer no further details.

Three months ago, Welsh Government Infrastructure Minister Ken Skates asked his officials to meet with their counterparts in the Vale Council to "find a solution that can be fully funded" to solve what he called the 'unique' transport problems in Dinas Powys.

"The council say in their Local Development Plan (LDP) that they're in favour of a bypass in principle, but were concerned the funding wouldn't be available during the life of the plan. No-one can understand why they haven't welcomed the possibility of the by-pass after Ken Skates' pronouncement," said Dinas Powys Bypass Steering Group (DPBPSG) member, Coun Andy Robertson.

"By restricting the outcome of this study to proposals already in the LDP, they're watering it down to make it little more than a 'lick-without-promise' from the start. With a predicted outcome, it'll be a complete waste of tax-payers' money.

"Do they intend engaging outside consultants, or experts on this budget? They say what's already in the LDP will inform what they now call the Dinas Powys Transport Network Study. Yet the council completed their LDP without having made such an important study. Could this be the reason the study must fit the plan?

"It sounds like they'll just represent exerts from reports already in the LDP.

"It certainly doesn't indicate the thorough investigation to discover the solution the Minister requested. If it will examine all options why won't they reveal the purpose and scope on which the study will be based and was priced – not just what it won't cover?" he added.

"A couple of years ago, the council budgeted £10,000 to look at improvements at the Merrie Harrier junction and McDonald's roundabout – though there have been no major changes.

"The new study wasn't just to be about the A4055 but all other, frequently used roads through Dinas Powys and the impact of recent and proposed further housing developments in the area.

"Potentially, they'd also look at public transport and lack of park-and-ride facilities, pavements and cycle tracks."

The DPBPSG say every previous report during the last decade has pointed to a bypass as the most effective solution.

"With the restriction we'll be lucky if they propose a few white lines or a change in the frequency of traffic lights," said Steering Group member Coun Vince Driscoll.

"We shouldn't have hoped for any more after we discovered the council rejected the opportunity to acquire the petrol station site at the Merrie Harrier. The extended site could offer opportunities to improve the junction, as our new map suggests.

"What's also amazing is how the council has expressed concern about the transport impact Cardiff Council's plans to build 1,500 houses at Caerau will have on the A4232, the peripheral road around the city. They're worried about the impact the mega-estate will have on traffic junctions at Culverhouse Cross, Leckwith Road and the Grangetown Link that joins onto the A4055 to Penarth, Dinas Powys and Barry.

"Yet when we expressed concern about the likelihood a considerable increase in heavy vehicles on the A4232 will bring through Dinas Powys when it's completed into Cardiff Bay, the council wouldn't consider a weight restriction on the A4055," he added.

"Vale Transport cabinet councillor Peter King even said the cost of a few signs could be better spent elsewhere. It is noticeable how a successful campaign in Llandough has produced a series of 20mph signs and expensive electronic speed information cameras.

"Numerous accidents on the A4055 include the collision of a car and an ambulance two weeks ago – 100 metres from Dinas Powys Infant School. Fortunately, no-one was hurt – this time," said Coun Driscoll.

New roundabout

A NEW design suggestion for the Merrie Harrier junction was to be put forward by Dinas Powys Bypass Steering Group, if the council made an 11th hour bid to buy the land of the former petrol station from the NHS.

"The extra land allows space for an additional island at the bottom of Penlan Hill outside the Merrie Harrier pub and a slip road for traffic going in the direction of Baron's Court," explained Roger Pattenden of the DPBPSG.

"Traffic coming from Llandough going to Penarth, the bypass to Barry or Dinas Powys would continue unhindered onto the top roundabout.

"A definite plus is that traffic going to Llandough from the Baron's Court end of the A4055 would go around the roundabout and up Penlan Road. Currently they have to take a chance, making a dangerous right turn without a filter light when traffic coming from Penarth and Dinas Powys has right of way.

"The purchase of this land would overcome the need to demolish any building," added Roger Pattenden.

Chickens stolen from allotments

OWNERS of allotments near Cemetery Approach in Barry have appealed to the public to provide any information they might have on the theft of four chickens recently.

The chairman of the allotments, Mr James Butler, said: "The chicken coop was broken into and four chickens were stolen. Two chickens were left badly injured.

"People breaking in to the allotments and doing this sort of damage is really disappointing."

Two bantams were stolen, and two warren chickens.

Vandals who caused damage at the Pencoedtre Park allotments a few years ago were tracked down by police.

If anyone has any relevant information, they can call local police on 101; or contact Crimstoppers free on 0800 555 111.

Park opens after £350,000 upgrade

WORK to upgrade the leisure facilities at Barry's Gladstone Gardens has come to an end, with the gates opening to the public this half-term.

A range of improvements have been made to the area, including the installation of an outdoor gym for adults, the introduction of a new multi-use games arena (MUGA), upgraded tennis courts and an upgrade to the children's play area.

Re-surfacing and fencing works to the surrounding areas have also taken place, improving access considerably.

Vale children will now be able to play in an upgraded play area that includes a play tower with track ride, Supernova, a spinner bowl, a three-way seesaw, and a variety of swings, all of which were designed to a seaside theme requested by local children during a consultation exercise held last summer.

Children of varying ages have been accommodated for, with different-sized slides and a 'tactile manipulative play panel' available.

Barry Youth Action played an important role in highlighting the potential improvements to the park to the Vale Council. The young people facilitated consultation workshops with pupils from nearby primary schools, as well as contributing their own ideas and suggestions.

Meanwhile, visitors to the gardens might also fancy a game of football, or basketball, both of which can be enjoyed in the new MUGA, a council spokesperson reports.

Adjacent to the MUGA stands the impressive new outdoor gym, an area that provides playful ways to train and socialise.

The dip bench, parallel bars, and suspension trainer are available for those wishing to increase muscular endurance, whilst cardio installations are for those looking to improve their aerobic fitness.

At specific points in the gym, users can refer to the Kompan boards. These display a range of exercises, and suggested work-outs for gym-goers.

The boards also have QR codes on them, which visitors can scan, on theirsphones, to gain access to the Kompan Sport & Fitness app. The fitness app contains interactive content on exercises and nutrition, and can be used in conjunction with the outdoor gym.

Couns Gwyn John, Neil Moore and Lis Burnett test out the facilities.

There are also plans for future open sessions to be held at the gym, with personal trainers visiting the site to host training sessions.

The work at Gladstone Gardens began in September 2016, and followed a period of consultation with the public, which aimed to ascertain what Vale residents wished to see at Gladstone Gardens.

Vale Council leader, Coun Neil Moore, who visited the park this week, said: "I am pleased to see that the work at Gladstone Gardens has been so successful. It now offers residents a range of fun and active installations to enjoy throughout the year.

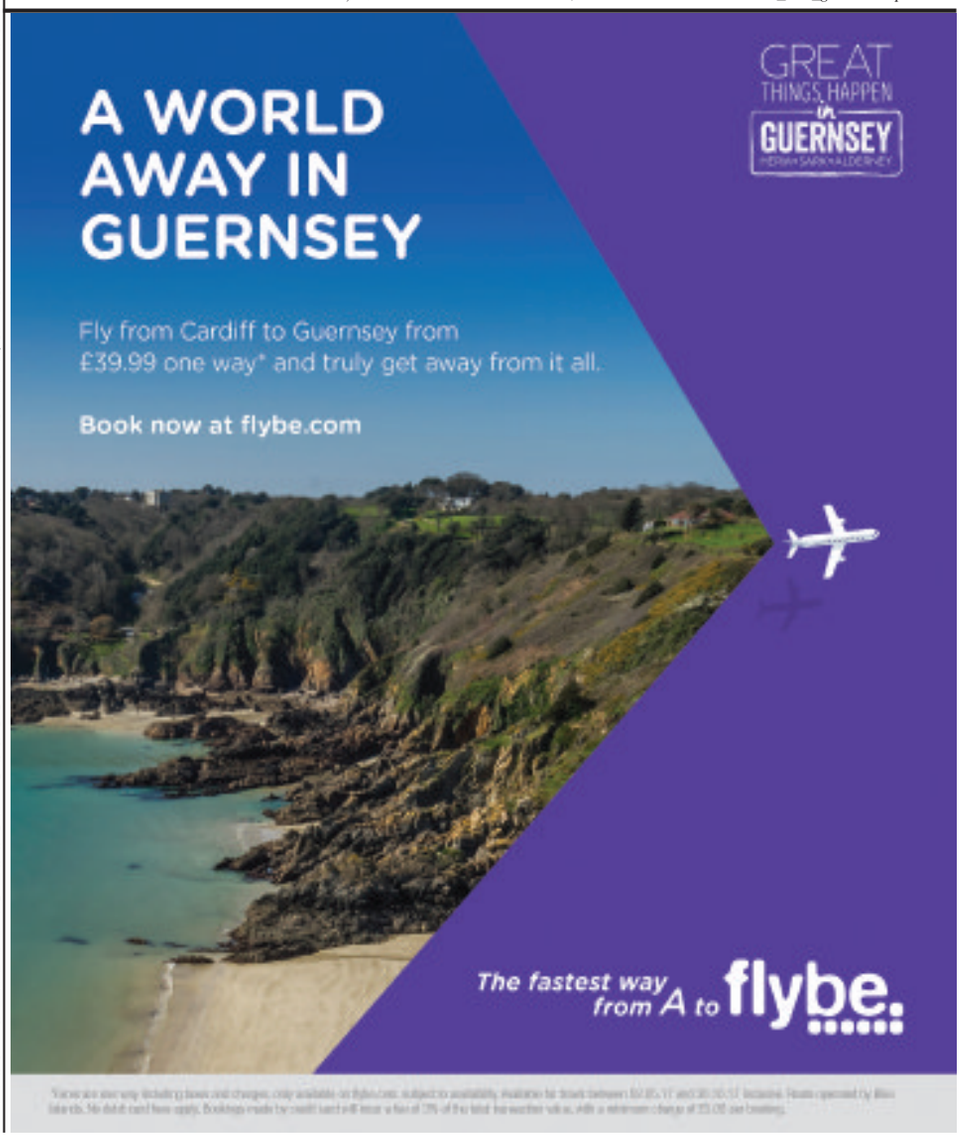
"The on-line surveys and focus groups, as well as the drop-in sessions for local residents, helped us shape this fantastic area, so I hope the local community will go on to feel very proud of it.

"I am looking forward to seeing how residents, and visitors, enjoy the park in the future."

The work to upgrade the leisure facilities at Gladstone Gardens forms part of a programme to upgrade both the Upper and Lower gardens. Other works include the restoration of the original balustrade walling, which is currently taking place, and the upgrade of footpaths. Planting is also due to take place in the spring and autumn.

The £350,000 invested into the refurbishment of the park, and surrounding areas, forms part of the Council's Castleland Renewal Area regeneration scheme.

For more on parks in the Vale of Glamorgan, visit http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/enjoying/parks_and_gardens/parks_and_gardens.aspx.



Praise for Welsh NHS

IT seems to be the thing to criticise the NHS at the moment. At 10.39 on Thursday, February 9, I had an appointment at the Princess of Wales Hospital in Bridgend.

I could not have received better, more efficient treatment anywhere.

My appointment was on time, I had an ECG , my blood pressure was taken, my weight and height were checked.

I was given a heart scan by a consultant who gave me a compre-hensive explanation of my condition.

Everyone was polite, friendly and efficient. I am one very satisfied patient of the NHS.

DC Geary-Andrews, Boverton

'Thank you to the Good Samaritans'

ON Monday, February 3, I was walking from Claude Road to Jenner Road via Beddlington Terrace to visit my father in Springbank Nursing Home when I tripped and fell.

I was bleeding a lot, and couldn't move to get up.

Via your newspaper, I would like to thank all those people who stopped and helped me at that time. I am very grateful to them all.

Mrs Diane Hooper, Barry.

Boost for Vale sports

A NUMBER of Vale sports clubs and organisations have recently benefited from Community Chest awards totalling £17,927.

These funds will be used to develop existing, or create new, sport and exercise opportunities in the Vale.The scheme is funded by Sport Wales and managed locally by the Council's Sports and Play Development Team.

The team have been assisting clubs aiming to increase sport and physical activity opportunities through a variety of sports.

Snared badger released to wild

A BADGER rescued from a snare by RSPCA Cymru has been released back to the wild, in the Vale.

RSPCA Cymru found the badger, in a Barry field, trapped in a snare next to a fence. The snare was caught around her neck, and wounds were visible on the animal's body. However, after a spell in specialist care, the badger made a full recovery.

She was returned safely back to the wild by RSPCA inspector Gemma Black in the early evening of February 16.

RSPCA inspector Selina Chan, who undertook the initial rescue, said: "It's always fantastic to have a happy ending, and it's amazing that this badger is back where she belongs after this ordeal."

Ploughing and hedging society sets match date

THE Vale of Glamorgan Ploughing & Hedging Society held a committee meeting at the Six Bells Inn, Penmark on Thursday, February 16.

Chairman, Andrew Studley, said he was pleased to see a number of young farmers attending the meeting, which bodes well for the future of the society.

The main item on the agenda was the spring ploughing match to be staged at Gileston Farm, Gileston on Saturday, March 25, by permission of RM Thomas. A practice day will be held on Sunday, March 19 at the same site.

The ploughing match will have six classes, plus the Ferguson T20 class. All entry forms must be in by March 19 so that the programme can be confirmed. Competitors can obtain entry forms from the chairman on 01446 781229 or secretary 01446 710610/07976 950680.

The gates will be open at 10am for the public to attend the match and the entrance fee will be £5 for adults – children and paid-up members of the society will have free entry.

From 2018, the Vale of Glamorgan Ploughing & Hedging Society will be given qualifying status for the Welsh Ploughing Association, so that competitors can qualify to represent Wales at regional and international events.

ANNUAL HEDGE CUTTING EVENT

THE Vale of Glamorgan Ploughing & Hedging Society held the annual hedge cutting event at Llandow on Saturday, January 18, by permission of John Morgan.

The judge was Mr E Hardy and the sponsor was J Edwards & Son, Sigginstone. The winner of the event was Matthew Popem, second was Lloyd Thomas and third Adam Llewellyn.

All those taking part were complimented on the high standard of workmanship in the event.

The chairman, Andrew Studley, thanked John Thomas of Gileston Farm and his team of helpers for organising the event.

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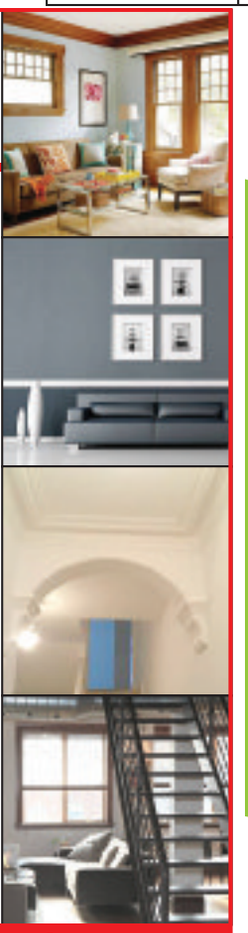
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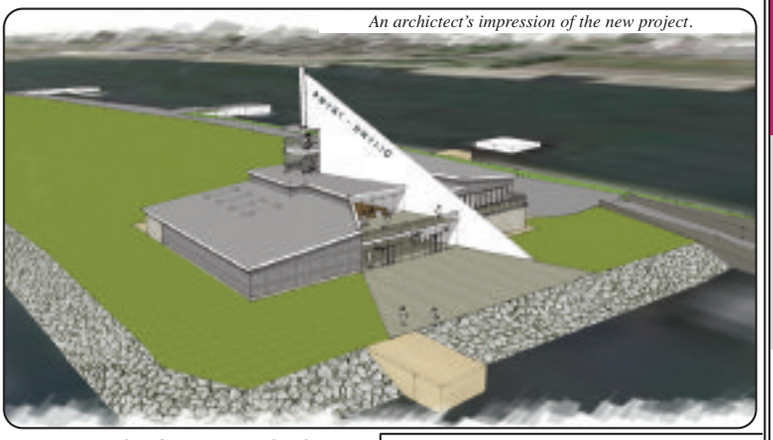
BIG LOTTERY FUNDS FOR WATERSPORTS ON MOLE

LOCAL charity, the Ocean Watersports Trust, has won Big Lottery funding to progress the design for the Barry Community Water Activity Centre, on the Mole in Barry Docks.



An archictect's impression of the new project.

The funding allows for the second phase of the concept building to proceed, and enables the Trust to use professional resources to complete the design, determine costing and submit planning applications that will eventually result in a major development, providing an iconic structure at the heart of our town.

The present design was the winner in an architectural competition in 2015 and can now be fully developed by the successful firm, Richard Andrews Architects of Newport.

The building will provide a community centre, available for all varieties of activities, including educational use, receptions, meetings and many other social purposes, alongside the Water Activity Centre, which already offers many water-based opportunities.

Chairman of the Trust, Chris Basten, stated that the Big Lottery has given the Ocean Watersports Trust an opening to add to the work already completed, which includes the provision of a slipway, and teaching and changing rooms.

He added that when we started this project a mere four years ago, we expected to make the centre available to six voluntary groups, but there were now 27 using the site, some 1,700 people.

He stressed that none of the work done so far, or that which would be carried out in the future, could have been done without the support of the people of Barry, who, by just completing surveys, or vocally supporting the project, have been a major element in getting to this point. He was certain that they would be rewarded by the provision of the new Community Centre, and make use of it for years to come.

However, more money needs to be raised, and the Trust invites anyone interested to contact the treasurer (01446 741733 or the secretary (07928 420080) who will be delighted to help you in advising how you can help with the project, either financially or by volunteering to help run the centre.

Friends and Neighbours

FRIENDS and Neighbours in Barry, met at Beryl Road Pioneer Hall recently, with more than 50 members having a fun afternoon.

They all enjoyed taking part in gentle, keep fit exercises to music with an Extend teacher from Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop.

Information was given out on a forthcoming trip, 'A Taste of Wales' on Brecon Canal with lunch and a visit to Brecon town.

Members have been invited to visit the Houses of Parliament by Alun Cairns MP in May. They will also be having lunch in March at the Glamorgan Suite of Barry College.

Gay Fifield also informed the group that FAN who meet at Barry Library are not connected with Friends and Neighbours, to avoid any confusion.

Contact Gay on 01446 400044 for further information.

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Former head of GCHQ gives insight into espionage

Sir David Omand (second from left, front row) met students from Howell's School during his visit to Cardiff.

Pictured are: Derek Morgan, Sir David Omand, Anne Morgan, and Sir Norman Lloyd-Edwards.

LAUNCHING a vintage year for speakers at the literary lunches of the south Wales branch of the English-Speaking Union, Professor Sir David Omand traced the history of spymasters from the reign of Elizabeth I to present times with his talk on 'A 500-year journey: putting secret intelligence under the rule of law'.

A former head of GCHQ, permanent secretary at the Home Office and the first security and intelligence co-ordinator responsible for homeland security and counter-terrorism strategy, Sir David explained that Queen Elizabeth I appointed Francis Walsingham as her chief spymaster,with the aim of guarding her life and defeating plots to install Mary Queen of Scots in her place.

With the involvement of a double agent, Mary's letters, smuggled out of her Chartley residence in a beer barrel, were seized and decoded, leading to the execution of her co-conspirators and Mary herself.

Many of the spies recruited by Walsingham were graduates from Oxford or Cambridge Universities, as was Sir David, who joined GCHQ straight from the latter and was instructed to tell his friends and family that he was working for the Civil Service on information technology.

Members were intrigued to learn how the UK intelligence services have to deal with the ever-increasing sophistication of threats to our security.

As one might expect, question time provoked a range of issues, from the impact of Brexit on European intelligence gathering to the likely effect of the policies of the newly-appointed President of the USA, and all were answered with the assured knowledge of a master of his craft.

The next event will be held on April 28 at 12.30pm, when Lord Butler of Brockwell speaks on 'Life with Five Prime Ministers' at the Cardiff City Stadium. Further information from Derek Morgan, branch chairman, at dwcaym@googlemail.com. **DM**

WHAT'S ON / NEWS IN BRIEF

AM's surgery

Vale AM Jane Hutt will be holding a surgery on February 24th from 10-11am at the Heritage Centre Town Hall Llantwit Major CF62 1SD

No appointment necessary.

Councillors' surgery

COUNS Geoff Cox, Hunter Jarvie and Andrew Parker, Cowbridge Ward members on the Vale Council, will be holding a surgery on Saturday, February 25 from 11am-12.30pm in the Robing Room, Cowbridge Town Hall (west door entrance).

Appointments are not necessary.

Care and Repair

IF you are a home owner or tenant living in the Vale, disabled and needing advice and support on repairs or home improvements, Care and Repair in Vale can help you to adapt and maintain your home, give advice on grants available and also give information on reputable companies to use.

Age Connects Cardiff and Vale are holding a drop-in session on Tuesday, February 28 from 10am to 12 pm.

This will be held at The Age Connects Senior Health Shop in Barry.

No appointment needed: contact 01446 732385 for further information.

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SPECIAL FEATURE

Daniel reveals the secret of how to get to 101!

A highly-decorated former Royal Engineer, celebrating his 101st birthday, says the secret to reaching over a century is keeping fit and having a good diet.

Centenarian Daniel Rosewell is the first permanent resident to live at Tŷ Llandaff, an 'all-inclusive', residential, nursing, palliative and respite care home, which recently opened in Cardiff.

The care home caught the attention of the national media when it opened its doors because of the luxurious facilities it offers residents, which include a cinema, piano bar, spa, hair salon and fine dining provided by the on-site chef.

Daniel celebrated his big day with a family lunch at Cedar Tree Farm in Ferry Road, followed by a party in the evening at Peterstone Lakes Golf Club in Peterstone Wentloog, which more than 60 people attended. The Army hero was chauffeur-driven to the golf club in a vintage 1934 Armstrong Siddeley car.

DANIEL ROSEWELL: "Everything in moderation!"

Daniel, who was born in Roath, Cardiff, fought for the duration of the Second World War, seeing action against the Germans and Italians in Africa and Europe before returning home in 1945.

He married Betty in 1939 and the couple were together for 78 years. He had three children, the first of whom was six months old when he went to war. By the time Danny returned to England, his baby son, Paul, was six.

Brave Daniel received five medals, including the DefenceMedal, Italy Star, Africa Star, the 1939-45 Star and 1939-45 Medal. When he left the Army, he continued to work in engineering and also owned his own furniture removals business.

Daniel has always been keen on keeping fit and played indoor bowls until he was 90. Asked what the secret might be to living to 101, he said: "I've always led an active life and eaten well, so maybe that's the secret, although everything in moderation!

"I broke my arm and had a chest infection so am now at Tŷ Llandaff, as it seemed the perfect choice. I'm honoured to be its first resident! It is ideal for me, because it's a good location for my family and friends to come and see me. The food is marvellous, top of the bill, and the staff are wonderful."

Janice Evans, care home manager at Tŷ Llandaff, said: "We are so pleased to welcome Daniel as our first permanent resident at Tŷ Llandaff.

"He is great fun and brings a smile to all of the team's faces here, every day. We are proud to be able to offer him the quality of care and standard of life that he deserves and enjoys at our luxury home."

For more information about Tŷ Llandaff, call Janice on 02920 600 100, email info@tyllandaffcare.com or visit www.tyllandaffcare.com

CHILLY STARTS – *and then came snow and sleet!*

GERAINT from Penarth and District Ramblers, played host to eight walkers meeting at Margam Park on a chilly morning, before tramping along muddy paths and steeply uphill through bare woodland, in the throes of tree felling, to emerge at Cwm Brombil.

Following a stream among moss-covered, twisted trees and arriving above the Brombil reservoir with its amazing blue water, snowflakes fell silently onto frozen tracks and pools as the wide forestry paths led them uphill through a deforested area.

Enjoying misty views over Port Talbot and the Bristol Channel from a clearing before pausing for morning coffee, then continuing through Margam Forest, a fellow walker coming in the opposite direction turned out to be from Cowbridge and reads about the group's exploits in The GEM!

Passing the Forestry Commission's memorial to Billy Vaughan, and following St Illtyd's Walk to reach the ancient Latin-inscribed Bodvoc Stone before turning south, the views opened out towards Kenfig Pool and Eglwys Nunydd reservoir.

A grassy open track afforded misty views towards Gower, prior to lunch above Margam deer park, and heading along to the Bro Stone overlooking Margam Country Park, a short walk led up to the Iron Age hillfort of Mynydd Y Castell, situated directly above Margam Castle that was followed by a gradual descent back to the start.

The following day, Jan and John welcomed two new walkers to their group of six and travelling to Fforest Fawr, set off on a cold damp morning with occasional showers to view the Sculpture Trail, which invites children to make up stories involving the characters in the woods, including dragons and a wizard.

Heading towards Castell Coch, designed by William Burges as a romantic folly for the Bute family during the 1870s, part of the Taff Trail led them along the dismantled railway line and a stop for refreshments.

Then, climbing gradually up the hillside as the mist lifted, there were views towards Pontypridd, Pen y Fan in the central Beacons and Caerphilly, but upon reaching the summit of Craig yr Allt, the skies darkened, the mist thickened and snow and sleet battered them as they walked along the ridgeway.

After locating the shape of Caerphilly Castle through the gloom, before making their way downhill past Rockwood Riding Centre, a road-walk led them back to their start point.

On February 25, meet at 8.30am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a 10-mile hard walk from Garwnant Visitor Centre taking in Mynydd-y-Glog; contact Barrie on 029 2053 0753.

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Out & About with The GEM

SPONSORED BY MEMO #BARRYCINEMEMO www.memoartscentre.co.uk BARRY'S NEW DIGITAL CINEMA & LIVE STREAMING THEATRE

Keanu Reeves shines as John Wick sequel strikes the target...

by GARETH JAMIESON
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter – @GEMScreenTalk

KEANU REEVES has always had the short end of the stick when it comes to his perceived acting ability. Criticised for not showing enough range, and in some cases being more wooden than a log, Reeves has nonetheless parlayed his 'limited' range into successes like *Point Break, The Matrix* and, in what seemed to be a late career renaissance, *John Wick*.

A surprise hit that saw Reeves essay the title role of a hit-man who goes after the men who (stupidly) stole his car and killed his dog, the film eschewed its B-movie origins to become a critical and commercial hit – unsurprising then that Reeves returns in *John Wick: Chapter 2*.

This time around, Wick gets his hands dirty to help an old friend – but in doing so, he ends up with a bounty on his head. With most of the hit-world after him, Wick can either fight or fly – and there wouldn't be a film if he took flight...

What was most refreshing about *John Wick* was that it was unashamedly an action film dealing in largesse and a heightened world where assassins would stay in a hotel together and go after men who stole their cars and killed their dogs.

John Wick: Chapter 2 could so easily have gone down the route of being darker, more serious and po-faced, such is the way with any number sequels. However, what you end up watching is a film that is not only smartly aware of its own ludicrousness, delivered with a knowing wink that makes for an enjoyably thrilling watch, but is also visually electrifying, the sheer visceral innovation of the set-pieces a joy to watch.

Writer Derek Kolstad has created a world within itself, one where everybody has links to the hit-game, and such depth and attention to detail means this is far more than just your average glossy action film; there are stakes, there are rules to be obeyed and there is a sense of a wider universe that feels incredibly well-thought out and refreshing.

The script isn't exactly reinventing the wheel, packed full of the kind of 'one-last-job' cliches you tend to find in these films, but what does engage is this sense of a larger picture and the way it's all woven together – its rare to see such smarts exercised in this genre.

Director Chad Stahelski returns solo this time around, having helmed the previous film with David Leitch (who has gone on to prepare to direct *Deadpool 2*), but Stahelski's background in stunt performing (he has been Keanu Reeves' stunt double in numerous films) and action co-ordination means that the film loses none of its visual impact.

Hard-hitting, brutal and with quite a large amount of bloodshed, this is a violent film, but the artistry of the set-pieces is mesmeric to watch.

Single-take scenes are choreographed with aplomb and energy, while a climactic scene set in a hall of mirrors-like structure deserves plaudits as much for the technical challenges the crew would have faced as for the balletic action. Stahelski gives the film verve and spark, meaning that film's two-hour running time never feels too padded out.

It's not the sort of film where you expect to see exceptional performances, but what Keanu Reeves may lack in depth, performance-wise, he makes up for in sheer physical presence. His commitment to the physical element of the role is excellent, and his stoicism and few words make Wick an indelible character.

Around him the likes of Ian McShane, Lance Reddick and Laurence Fishburne give a sheen of class, while Riccardo Scamarcio's hammy villain plays to genre type if nothing else.

But ultimately, the judgement of *John Wick: Chapter 2* hangs on its ability to deliver high-octane action sequences, thrills and spills; and it does this with no little style. The sense of world building gives the characters, if not necessarily the story, added depth, and it all adds up to a thoroughly satisfying sequel. With a third chapter hinted at, we may be seeing more of John Wick soon.

VERDICT: A more-than-welcome return, *John Wick: Chapter 2* is an unabashed action film, and makes no pretence to be anything more than that, but comes with a depth and a visual style that is more appealing. Keanu Reeves' stoic, physical performance is the centrepiece, but Chad Stahelski's direction gives the film a visual urgency that is quite enthralling.

Recommended.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *John Wick* (2014), *Fast & Furious* (2013).

'Light up the Lakes' with Bloodwise

BLOOD cancer charity Bloodwise is planning its very first Balloon Walk in Wales.

Light up the Lakes' will take place on March 25 at Cosmeston Lakes, Penarth, and energy company, Western Power Distribution is lending its support to the event. Each participant will be given a lit up Bloodwise balloon to light up the lakes as they walk.

The walk starts at 4pm and participants need to register in advance. It's free to enter – the charity is asking that participants raise as much sponsorship as they can to help fund vital research into blood cancers. All money raised goes directly towards the charity's life-saving research and patient support services.

Rachael Davies, regional manager for Bloodwise said: "We're very excited to launch this new walk at Cosmeston and hope that a lot of people will join us to Light up the Lakes! Everyone is welcome, it's really easy to sign up online or call the office to register. We're offering free entry to encourage more people to take part and to raise sponsor money for Bloodwise."

Bloodwise is the UK's biggest blood cancer charity, formed in 1960 which changed its name from Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research in 2015.

For more information visit www.bloodwise.org.uk. Join us for a lovely walk around Tenby on February 25 (www.bloodwise.org.uk/tenbywalk) or Light up the Lakes at Cosmeston on March 25 (www.bloodwise.org.uk/lakeswalk).

Next meeting for FoE

THE next meeting of Barry&Vale Friends of the Earth will be held on Tuesday, March 7 at 7.30pm in the Castle Hotel, Jewel Street, Barry.

This follows a successful public meeting in Castleland Community Centre where 50 residents told Jane Hutt, AM and a representative of Natural Resources Wales, that the incinerator being built on Barry Dock should not get a licence to operate, for the same reasons – localised air pollution – as applied at Cwmfelinfach.

Keith Stockdale
(Barry&Vale Friends of the earth coordinator)

Renowned gardener coming to Cowbridge

ON Wednesday, March 8, Cowbridge Physic Garden will hold its annual general meeting in the St Quentin's Suite of the Bear Hotel.

At 7pm, after the AGM, a very special speaker has been invited to talk on her garden and gardening experiences.

Helen Picton is the third generation of her family to nurture and maintain Picton Gardens near Malvern. The garden is world famous for its collection of Michaelmas Daisies and the trustees of the Physic Garden are delighted that she has agreed to share her knowledge with all keen gardeners in the Vale.

Tickets are £5, available from Val Caple, Milestones, Penllyn, CF71 7RQ, or you can pay at the door.

Beach clean-up

FRIENDS of Barry Beaches' next litter pick will be on Sunday (February 26) at Whitmore Bay, Barry Island. Volunteers should meet near Marco's Cafe at 3pm.

Litter pickers and bags are provided, but would volunteers please wear suitable clothing and footwear. Children are always welcome, but we ask that they are accompanied by an adult.

We look forward to welcoming volunteers, old and new to help keep Barry's beaches clean.

What's on and where in Bridgend and the Vale

History society talk

RHOOSE and District History Society will hold a talk by Philip Wilson on various aspects of Tredegar House on Friday, February 24 at 7.30pm in the rear hall of Rhoose Community Centre, Stewart Road, Rhoose.

Tickets (£1 adults, children 50p) available on the door.

Councillors' surgery

COUNS Geoff Cox, Hunter Jarvie and Andrew Parker, Cowbridge Ward members on the Vale Council, will be holding a surgery on Saturday, February 25 from 11am-12.30pm in the Robing Room, Cowbridge Town Hall (west door entrance).

Appointments are not necessary.

Care and Repair

IF you are a home owner or tenant living in the Vale, disabled and needing advice and support on repairs or home improvements, Care and Repair in Vale can help you to adapt and maintain your home, give advice on grants available and also give information on reputable companies to use.

Age Connects Cardiff and Vale are holding a drop-in session on Tuesday, February 28 from 10am to 12 pm.

This will be held at The Age Connects Senior Health Shop in Barry.

No appointment needed: contact 01446 732385 for further information.

NEST programme

DO you need help with your energy bills, free and impartial advice on cutting them?

Find out if you are eligible for a free home improvement grant through Welsh Government's NEST programme. Age Connects Cardiff and Vale are holding a surgery at the Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry on Tuesday, February 28 from 10am to 12pm.

No appointment is needed, just come along and chat to one of the advisers from the NEST programme. Home visits can be arranged if necessary; contact 08088 082244. For further information call 01446 732385

Cowbridge Royal British Legion

THE next meeting of the Cowbridge and District Branch of the Royal British Legion will take place in the Duke of Wellington on Tuesday, March 7 starting at 7.30pm.

The RBL area manager for Wales, Mr Anthony Metcalfe, will be attending to meet members. All branch members are encouraged to attend and anybody who is not a member will also be made most welcome.

Fundraising Urdd Eisteddfod concert

A CONCERT will be held at Porthcawl Pavilion on St David's Day, March 1, when the Morriston Orpheus Choir, together with soprano Angharad Rees, Bridgend Youth Theatre, Porthcawl Comprehensive Senior Choir and Aelwyd Porthcawl will be appearing.

The concert will raise funds for the Urdd national eisteddfod from Bridgend and district; tickets available from the box office or online.

Tax advice

DO you worry about your tax affairs? Do you know if you are paying the correct amount? Are you nervous about approaching the Inland Revenue?

Age Connects Cardiff and Vale are holding a free tax advice session at the Age Connects Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry. This will be held on Monday, February 27, 9.30am to 11.30am; no appointment necessary.

Call 01446 732385 for further information. Home visits can be arranged.

Councillor's surgery

RHOOSE councillor Adam Riley will hold an advice surgery at the Celtic Way community hall, Rhoose, on Monday, February 27, between 1pm and 2.30pm. Residents with any council issues or concerns are welcome to attend. No appointments necessary.

Coffee morning

ALL Saints' Church Barry Mothers' Union will be holding a coffee morning in the church hall, Park Road, on Saturday, March 11 at 10.30am. Stalls to include quality gifts, spring/Easter and a cake stall. Admission £1 to include a cup of tea or coffee. All proceeds will go to Mothers' Union charities; all welcome.

Lent lunches

ALL Saints' Church, Park Road, Barry, invite you to enjoy some good company and food at their Lent Lunches, to be held in the Church Hall from 12.pm to 1.30pm on four successive Thursdays: March 2, 9 16, 23.

Lunch will include soup, crusty bread, a selection of cheeses and tea or coffee for £5-a head, including a free raffle.

All proceeds to church funds. Everyone is welcome.

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D971.

- **£2,000:**607335.
- **The rollover, which now stands at £2,500, was not won this week.**
- **£10:** 109948, 152656, 826041, 301947, 954519, 630524, 445304, 478402, 504571, 392702, 349633, 839914, 372053, 475988, 645494, 411086, 465939, 225214, 628113, 962155, 938040, 1537735.
- **£5:** 587775, 558295, 460508, 185065, 224861, 553697, 594192, 775284, 297711, 494121, 336283, 115225, 169678, 329837,107970, 880818, 180372, 270774, 654035, 413199, 928309, 410228, 789975, 312053, 125030, 178695, 780223, 467422, 825496, 869211, 899737, 773881, 247933, 260765, 332644, 873152, 352353, 877269, 676695, 473869, 633435, 668793, 294329, 888942, 439633, 454843, 754240, 398216, 888674, 862794, 774450, 760886, 838351, 361, 484, 1846983, 1549198, 5073.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

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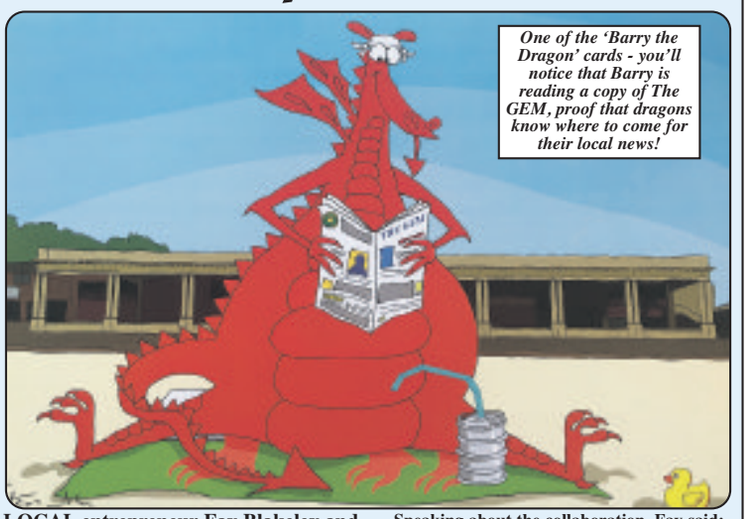
Barry the Dragon gets his news from The GEM!



One of the 'Barry the Dragon' cards - you'll notice that Barry is reading a copy of The GEM, proof that dragons know where to come for their local news!

LOCAL entrepreneur Fay Blakeley and animator-turned-artist Steve John have collaborated to create a new range of cards celebrating Barry Island.

Steve John who has worked with Disney, Pinewood Studios and the creators of Wallace and Gromit (Aardman productions) approached Fay Blakeley, owner of Homemade Wales gift shop based on Island Road, Barry, suggesting the collaboration.

Steve is part of the artist collective, Artisan Corner in Penarth, and has created similar successful artworks for the Penarth area.

Speaking about the collaboration, Fay said: "Steve and I were talking about his artworks and passion for animation when I asked if he would be interested in creating something for Barry. We talked about the iconic buildings in the area and settled on the promenade shelters at Barry Island."

The result is a collection of cards featuring Barry the dragon, enjoying a day out in Barry - and as seen above, reading a copy of The GEM!

The cards are available exclusively from Homemade Wales, Island Road, Barry.

'Consultation on permit under way'

Incinerator in focus at residents' meeting

by GEM REPORTER

If you have a story, please email: *editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk*; or call 01446 774484

AROUND 60 Barry residents attended a meeting at Castleland Community Centre on Monday, February 13, to discuss an environmental permit for an incinerator at the docks.

Local people have expressed concerns at its potential proximity to the town centre.

The Vale's Assembly Member Jane Hutt chaired the meeting, having invited Natural Resources Wales (NRW) to discuss concerns regarding the consultation of the 'Biomass UK No.2 Ltd environmental permit'.

She told The GEM: "There was a very good turnout at the meeting that I organised with Coun Pam Drake, with three senior managers from Natural Resources Wales attending to answer questions and take on board the major concerns residents have about this development.

"Consultation on the environmental permit is now under way and people must make their views and concerns known over the coming weeks.

"Natural Resources Wales has agreed to work with the council in order to make consultation documents more accessible to the public, with plans to make copies available online and at Barry library."

A spokesman for the Docks Incinerator Action group (DIAG) told The GEM: "Some 50 to 60 people, including many forceful objectors, crowded the meeting room with Jane Hutt AM chairing.

"The first question was 'Why claim it's an energy production plant when it's to burn waste wood?'

"Many spoke strongly against such a plant being built so close to the town and homes. 'No-one in the room wants it,' said one, and no-one contradicted that.

"One person thought it would burn 'clean' woodchips – the NRW said contamination is controlled at chip-making sites, painted or glued wood and chipboard are allowed but creosoted wood is excluded. Any imported waste wood-chip is apparently uncontrolled."

The DIAG spokesman went on: "The NRW said they had to be satisfied the plant would not harm human health or be a risk to the environment before they would license it.

"Responding on the point that the NRW has allowed wood-chip stores that went on fire, the NRW leader said they had refused a licence at Cwmfelinfach.

"That plant's emissions would have emerged at the level of homes on the valley sides, and the company could not show the fumes would disperse harmlessly.

"One resident at the meeting reported fog often hangs over the dock area, showing 'temperature inversion' like at Cwmfelinfach. 'Surely this would trap the incinerator fumes, she asked,' but there was no reply."

Keith Stockdale of DIAG added after the meeting: "We are pleased at the turn-out – despite the limited publicity – and expect this vocal meeting to wake up our councillors and reluctant public servants.

"The group is asking on the Facebook site 'Stop the Barry Town Incinerator' for people to send in pictures of fog trapped over the dock.

"They also ask if amateur owners of one of the new digital weather stations could supply wind data in Barry, to help show how this differs from the winds at Rhoose airport assumed by the company."

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

(A4050 PORT ROAD (DWYRAIN) A A4231 DOCIAU'R BARRI FFORDD GYSWLLT (RHAN)), (CYFYNGIAD CYFLYMDER 30MYA A 40MYA) (DROS DRO) 2017

Ar 23 Chwefror 2017, gwnaeth Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Adran 14 Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill Orchymyn a fydd yn gorfodi'r hyn a ddisgrifir yn yr atodlenni isod.

Daw'r Gorchymyn i rym ar 1 Mawrth 2017 neu ar y dyddiad y bydd yr Arwyddion Traffig angenrheidiol mewn lle pa un bynnag ddaw olaf a gellir gweld copi o'r Gorchymyn yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol.

Os ydych am gwestiynu dilysrwydd y Gorchymyn neu'r darpariaethau ynddo ar y sail nad ydynt yn unol â'r pwerau a ddyfarnwyd gan y Ddeddf uchod neu ar y sail nas cydymffurfiwyd ag unrhyw un o ofynion y Ddeddf, neu unrhyw offeryn a wnaed dan y Ddeddf mewn perthynas â'r Gorchymyn, gallwch, o fewn chwe wythnos o 1 Mawrth 2017, wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys at y diben hwn.

ATODLEN 1

1. Ni fydd unrhyw berson yn achosi neu'n caniatáu i gerbyd modur deithio'n gyflymach na 40 m.y.a. yn y lleoliadau a nodir yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATODLEN 2

Lleoliadau Y rhan o A4050 Port Road (Dwyrain) yr effeithir arni yw o bwynt tua 70 metr i'r de-orllewin o'r gyffordd ag A4231 Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri, i bwynt 300m i'r gogledd-orllewin o'r gyffordd honno.

Y rhan o A4231 Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri o'r gyffordd ag A4050 Port Road (Dwyrain) tua'r de am 75 metr.

ATODLEN 3

2. Ni fydd unrhyw berson yn achosi neu'n caniatáu i gerbyd modur deithio'n gyflymach na 30 m.y.a. yn y lleoliad a nodir yn Atodlen 4 isod.

ATODLEN 4

Lleoliadau Y rhan o A4050 Port Road (Dwyrain) yr effeithir arni yw o gylchfan Depo'r Alpau wrth gyfeirnod grid 312108 173959 tua'r gogledd i derfyn y Sir wrth Groes Cwrlwys.

Yn ogystal, caiff y Gorchmynion a elwir yn **"Gorchymyn Bro Morgannwg A4050 Port Road (Dwyrain) y Barri (Diwygio Cyfyngiad Cyflymder 40 / 50 m.y.a. cyfredol 2011"** a **"Gorchymyn Cyngor Bro Morgannwg(A4231 Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri) (Cyfyngiad Cyflymder 50mya) 2005** eu gohirio'n rhannol tra bydd y Gorchmynion hyn mewn grym.

Rheswm Galluogi adeiladu cynigion metro newydd ynghyd â gwella'r droedffordd a lonydd beiciau

Hyd O 06:00 ddydd Mercher 1 Mawrth 2017 am hyd at 18 mis neu nes y caiff yr Arwyddion Traffig 30mya a 40 mya eu symud, p'un bynnaga ddaw gyntaf.

Dyddiedig 23 Chwefror 2017.

M. E. Punter,
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Gweladwy a Thai
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Depo'r Alpau,
Gwenfô. CF5 6AA.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

(A4050 PORT ROAD (EAST) (PART) AND A4231 BARRY DOCKS LINK ROAD (PART)), 30MPH AND 40MPH SPEED RESTRICTION (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2017

On the 23rd February 2017 the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and of all other enabling powers made an Order the general effect of which is as described in the Schedules below.

The Order will come into operation on the 1st March 2017 or on the date that the necessary Traffic Signs are in place whichever is the later and a copy of the Order may be seen at the address shown below during normal office hours.

If you wish to question the validity of the Order or any provisions contained therein on the grounds that they are not within the powers conferred by the above Act or on the grounds that any requirement of the same or that any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order, you may within six weeks from the 1st March 2017 apply to the High Court for this purpose.

SCHEDULE 1

1. No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to travel at a speed greater than 40 mph in the locations specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Locations The area of the A4050 Port Road (East), affected is from a point approximately 70 metres southwest of the junction with A4231 Barry Docks Link Road, to a point 300m northwest of that junction.

The area of the A4231 Barry Docks Link Road from its junction with the A4050 Port Road (East) in a southerly direction for a distance of 75 metres.

SCHEDULE 3

2. No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to travel at a speed greater than 30 mph in the location specified in Schedule 4 below.

SCHEDULE 4

Location The area of the A4050 Port Road (East), affected is from the Alps Depot Roundabout at grid ref is 312108 173959 in a generally northerly direction to the County Boundary at Culverhouse Cross.

In addition, the Orders known as "The Vale of Glamorgan A4050 Port Road (East) Barry (Amendment to Existing 40 / 50mph Speed Restriction) Order 2011" and "The Vale of Glamorgan Council (A4231 Docks Link Road, Barry) (50mph Speed Restriction) Order 2005 shall be suspended in part for the duration of this Order.

Reason To allow for the construction of new metro proposals together with improvements to footway and cycle lanes

Duration From 06:00Hrs on Wednesday 1st March 2017, for a maximum period of 18 months or until the 30mph and 40mph Traffic Signs are removed, whichever is the sooner.

Dated this 23rd day of February 2017.

M. E Punter,
Director of Visible Services & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps Depot,
Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

Libor fines are helping to fund veterans' tours to Normandy

THE travel arm of the Royal British Legion, Remembrance Travel, is on a mission – to find every surviving D-Day veteran, as the Treasury is enabling a series of free tours for D-Day veterans to return to Normandy, and pay their respects to fallen comrades.

The tours are being funded by the Treasury from Libor fines, and will enable a D-Day veteran to return with a family member and carer on a six-night tour.

The 2017 tours will take place in March, April, May and September, and will give Normandy veterans – now mostly in their 90s – the chance to revisit the Normandy beaches, cemeteries and memorials.

The tours will be accompanied by a medic and a guide from the Royal British Legion.

They will depart from London and will include Eurotunnel from Dover over to Calais, accommodation, visits to Pegasus Bridge, Juno, Sword, Gold beaches, Arromanches, and war memorials, plus visits to personally specified locations.

Chancellor of the Exchequer, Phillip Hammond, said: "I'm delighted that we've been able to give nearly £4 million of Libor funds to support our D-Day Veterans wishing to return to Normandy with the Royal British Legion and other organisations, in order to pay their respects to those who did not return home in 1944."

He continued: "It's a token of our nation's immense debt of gratitude to those who gave so much both for our freedom and the freedom of Europe in the Second World War."

Nichola Rowlands-Smith of Remembrance Travel said: "We have organised a number of group tours to Normandy for D-Day veterans and they have proved a very moving experience for all.

"It has been wonderful to offer these brave elderly men a chance to revisit the battlefield and to share their experiences with friends and family."

Normandy veterans wishing to benefit from this tour need to apply via Remembrance Travel's tour operator, Arena Travel on 01473 660800, or visit www.arenatravel.com/journeysofremembrance.

Remembrance Travel will also be offering group travel opportunities for Normandy veteran associations.

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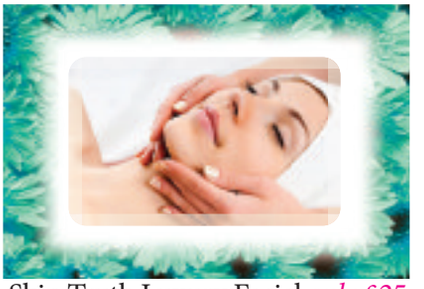

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01446 410057

Gifts *from £3.50*
Homemade Wales, 5 Island Road (off High Street),
Barry. facebook.com/homemadewales

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Colours, 66 Eastgate, Cowbridge
01446 774620

Mothers' Day Afternoon Tea
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Copthorne Hotel, Culverhouse Cross, Cardiff 02920 599100

Foil Lace Dress *£79.99*
Jade Boutique, 74 High Street, Barry
01446 730811

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4 Island Road, Barry. 01446 732017

LED Floral Displays *from £9.99*
Simply Stunning Gifts, above VFM, Unit 5,
Palmersvale, Barry. 07964 532307

Gelish Nails *only £20* (Vouchers Available)
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27 Tynewydd Road, Barry. 07960 089290

Lisa Kay Ladies Shoes *£119.95*
Jon Ian, 42 High Street, Cowbridge
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Miss Holmes, 11 High Street, Barry.
01446 732456

Mother's Day Cards *£2.50*
The Pencil Case, Cowbridge Ltd,
50 Eastgate, Cowbridge. 01446 772210

Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

• Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address and a contact telephone number.

An email address alone is not sufficient!

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

'CHILDREN'S NEEDS SHOULD BE IN BILL'

GEM readers may not be aware that there is currently no specific legal protection for children with medical conditions at school in Wales.

Children, young people and families, who already face the daily pressures of living with a serious condition like Type 1 diabetes, asthma, or epilepsy, are also having to fight for their rights to stay safe and be fully involved in school life.

Parents tell us that while some of these children and young people have excellent care and support at school, others are struggling every day to access education.

Now there is a real opportunity to make sure that children with medical conditions are safe at school, with the new Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Bill currently being considered by the National Assembly for Wales.

We now need your readers' help to tell their local AMs how important it is that children with medical conditions are included in the Bill and protected by law.

It is vital that your readers share their experiences with local AMs and let them know the real impact this has on children's lives.

Sharing your story today will help protect future generations of children and make sure they're safe at school.

Dai Williams
Director of Diabetes UK Cymru

'Situation is unacceptable'

THE Boverton situation is unacceptable to those residents who were told a year ago that work would be starting soon to avoid the devastation on their homes and businesses.

Year after year, they have gone through situations worse than we at Ham Manor Park, though the threat is always there.

It is important that our local MP highlights these issues which, according to Coun John "are none of his business". Alun Cairns MP has many duties, and the fact that he does get involved in local issues is to be applauded. Coun Tony Bennett is also working incredibly hard on planning protests and addressing concerns of residents at Ham Manor Park.

Jo Cody, Llantwit Major.

Roadworks at a standstill

Roadworks on Barry Island have been ongoing since before Christmas and were not restarted afterwards.

I called the council and was told that they had not instructed the contractors to start the work again. Work started a couple of days later, but has stopped again for over a week.

I have called the council several times more about this and was even promised a call back – which of course I didn't get.

They have created a nearly invisible mini roundabout, at which I have seen several very near misses, with cars going up the wrong side of the road.

This is an accident waiting to happen, for which the council seems to be completely disinterested.

Mark Stone, Barry Island.

It's bin gone too long

I DILIGENTLY put my bins out for collection Sunday night – however, when I came to leave for work before the bin men came to empty them, they were all gone!

I refuse to believe that they blew away and now I have been informed that I will not be able to buy any more as they have been out of stock for five weeks.

It seems I am not the only one whose bins have suffered the same fate. We are buying new ones every two months, which is ridiculous. There must be an easier way!

Rhydian Hoddinott, Cowbridge

Questions for the council

RECENTLY, the Vale Council leader and deputy leader stated that they are proud of the achievements of the Vale Council.

I think the people should decide on the council's achievements – or lack of.

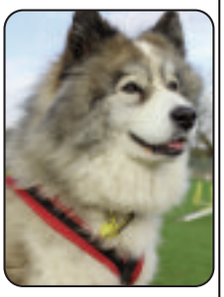
Are councillors proud of the £250,000 they spent on the refurb of the council chamber and of the council tax rises over the past four years? Are they proud of cuts to council jobs and not replacing them? Are they proud that they charge us for the privilege of recycling our food waste now we have to purchase food bags?

Are they proud of the sacking of Barry library staff and replacing them with volunteers, and of turning off our street lights at midnight? This council has nothing to be proud of – we have no cinema in this town, no leisure facilities, no swimming pool.

Rhondda Cynon Taff Council puts the Vale Council to shame. Even now, it has washed its hands of parking enforcement and dumped it on Bridgend Council.

DJ Radford, Barry

Will you home Maddie?



DOGS Trust Bridgend is appealing for a home for a dog after waiting more than four months at the centre.

"Staff are hoping that a new owner will spot Maddie, a four-year-old Husky-cross and that she will soon be with a new family.

"Maddie would benefit from an adult-only, active home and with someone who is an experienced dog owner that will be around a lot of the day, as she gets worried when left alone for long periods of time.

"Potential adopters will need to be prepared to visit the centre multiple times to get to know her."

If you can offer Maddie a home, call Dogs Trust Bridgend on 0300 303 0292, or visit the centre at Pen-y-Fai, Bridgend, CF31 4NG.

'I lost my brolly'

AFTER attending a meeting in Cowbridge Town Hall, I accidentally left my long handled umbrella behind.

Most probably someone borrowed it when they found they had got caught in a rain shower, but I would be grateful if you could return it to the Town Hall so that next time it rains I won't get wet!

Pat Smith, Bridgend

Terminally ill dancer's brave message:
'YOU CAN STILL ACHIEVE SO MUCH'

"YOU can still achieve so much and the rewards are still there for you" – that's a Burlesque dancer's message to others with terminal illness, as she prepares for a March show while supporting Marie Curie.

Lorrainne Castellano (56), from Penarth, was given an expectation of 18 months to live when she was diagnosed with peritoneal cancer in 2013, but has defied doctors' expectations.

Having recently been told she has only three to four months left to live, Lorrainne wants to use the time to tell others that they need to keep being themselves – and to highlight the work of Marie Curie, which provides help and support to those living with terminal illness and their families.

Lorrainne is also determined to perform with the Burly Girls – a dance troupe she belongs to, which is part of the Cardiff Cabaret Club. The show is on March 24 at St Peter's Hall in Cardiff, and will be supporting Marie Curie.

Speaking about her positive attitude to the cancer – which she calls Neal – she said: "You've been told you've got this disease and then everybody starts to change.

"You're changing anyway, and then people around you change. They don't know what to say.

"All I would say to the person that's been told (that they have cancer), is just keep being you. You're independent. As tough as it is, there's nothing wrong with you, you're just carrying this other thing that's decided, ok, it's going to come along for the ride, but all I say is that yeah, it can come along for the ride, but it's not the driver.

"But it does take a lot of effort and strength to continue with all your interests and to continue doing all the things you love.

"As hard as it is, you mustn't let them go, even if you can only do a little bit daily.

"I don't want to talk about it. I don't want it to be the first thing on everybody's mind, or on my mind. I call it Neal, but that's me, and I know other people are different."

Over the years since her diagnosis, Lorrainne – a former beauty therapist – has received complimentary therapies at the day therapy unit at Marie Curie's Cardiff and the Vale hospice in Penarth.

Treatments have included aromatherapy and reflexology, as well as attending discussion groups to help with fatigue symptoms.

"Aromatherapy and reflexology, to me, is just magical," she said.

Lorrainne Castellano.

"You feel like the body is being cleansed, because that's how it works. The magical smell of essential oils helps you travel on the journey of relaxation. If you can get the blend right for the individual person, that's the way forward, and some smells are repulsive to one person, but absolute heaven to another."

Lorrainne said she found it difficult to deal with the fatigue from the chemotherapy – until she attended a support group to help her manage the symptoms at the hospice's day therapy unit.

"When you are going through your chemotherapy you can't believe how you feel, like you're tired, but sleep doesn't make it any better," she said.

"I was trying to complete too many big tasks. So then Marie Curie showed me and explained that if I did an hour of that, an hour of that, an hour of that, in one day I would have completed seven tasks.

"I may not have finalised every single one, but I feel better that I've got those done, rather than trying to do eight hours on one thing and still not completing it."

She praised the team at the hospice, adding: "They always accommodate your wishes the best they possibly can."

As well as performing with the Burly Girls, Lorrainne makes costumes for herself and for the other dancers, something she says she will continue to do for as long as possible.

"My burlesque and my Burly is my faith, my holistic being is my faith, as others have religious faith," she said.

"If you do have something, whatever it is, what I'm trying to say is don't let it go.

"Don't let this (cancer) take away from who you are, stand your ground. Even if it fights back, stand your ground.

"You can still achieve so much and the rewards are still there for you."

Lorrainne, whose other love in life is her dog Betty, is now thinking of other ways she can support Marie Curie during the charity's annual Great Daffodil Appeal, which launched in Wales last week.

She says she hopes to be able to hold a sale of her clothing, shoes and costumes – once she no longer needs them – for "petite ladies" around Cardiff.

"I want my clothes to go out dancing again," she said.

Meanwhile, she is taking her Marie Curie collection tins with her wherever she goes, and hopes her story will inspire others to sign up to collect during the appeal through February and March.

Two of her Burly Girls are already signed up to support the charity, with one creating bespoke pasties and another planning a tea party for Marie Curie.

Make Every Daffodil Count and volunteer to support now: mariecurie.org.uk/daffodil or call 0800 304 7025.*

Cross Common Road junction is now open

The official party at the opening of the road junction.

WORK on a £500,000 scheme to improve the highway network in Dinas Powys has been completed, and the new Cross Common Road junction officially opened to the public.

Work on the new junction, which re-routes traffic away from the Cross Common road bridge, began at the end of October 2016. Following its completion, the junction was officially opened to the public this week by Coun Peter King, cabinet member for building services, highways and transportation.

Coun King said: "Before work began we were under no illusions about what an important issue this was for local residents. The question of how best to solve what was a complex problem had been the topic of lengthy discussion and hung over the community for some time.

"The new junction will be safer for motorists and pedestrians than the previous narrow crossing and will eliminate any possible risk of flooding caused by supports for the old bridge.

"I'm pleased that the scheme was completed without the need for any road closures, meaning any disruption to local residents and commuters was kept to an absolute minimum."

The section of highway that joins Cross Common Road and Cardiff Road had previously been served by a bridge, the structure of which had been supported by a timber frame since 2005. This frame had been slowly deteriorating.

Rather than replace the wooden supports, the Vale Council took the decision to dismantle the bridge and create a new junction 50 metres downstream. Now that work on the new junction is completed, the bridge will be closed and work to remove it all together will begin.

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Celebrates 10 years

Making people's 'start up' dreams come true

Business Centre celebrates 10 years

The G2 office.

The conference room.

The reception area.

WHETHER the break from your usual '9-to-5' over Christmas and the New Year got you thinking about initiating your own start-up, or you've found the gap in the market and have been mulling over your own business idea for a while but just aren't sure when is the best time to set up your own business, we know it can be hard to take the leap.

Maybe you see other people doing the things that you love and has you thinking, 'I could do that!'

If this sounds like you, we wanted to share a story of productivity and positivity to help inspire your own journey – ours.

The Business Centre (Cardiff) Ltd has just turned 10 and we had no idea back in 2007 that we would turn into the mature and developed business that we are today.

To help set the scene and tell the story, James Mason, The Business Centre Manager, spent some time having a sweet treat in Mel's cafe, and explained how far The Business Centre has come, and his plans for the future.

Where did the idea for The Business Centre Cardiff (Ltd) come from?

In 2005, Gordon Mason was heading up the Space Centre Self Storage, which was a company within the Masons Group and was asked by a company storing their stock with Space Centre Ltd if there was any office space on site available for rent.

As it didn't at the time, the company left to find office and storage space together somewhere else.

At that point, Gordon began to research the availability of offices within the Vale of Glamorgan and surrounding areas. It became apparent that there was lack of office space available in the local area.

Why did you believe the idea would work?

There were several local businesses in the area that didn't have an option of fully serviced office space and office rental options. From Gordon's research, we discovered there was no relevant serviced office space locally. It was clear that there was a business opening for office rentals for the future.

How did the original building differ from what it is today? And what did you have to do to convert?

The original building was a national parcel distribution site and was unoccupied for two years. To convert the disused warehouse into a fully serviced office facility, the refurbishment involved creating a second floor mezzanine, the fit-out of 50 office suites of various sizes, including installation of high speed broadband and telecoms infrastructure together with a state of the art reception area, gym facilities and conference rooms.

All in all, the refurb took18 months, including the conversion, and then a car park with 120 spaces. The external works were made possible with some funding through the match funding improvement grant from the Welsh Assembly Government

So here we are in 2017 and 10 years on, did you think The Business Centre would be so successful?

The Directors of The Business Centre (Cardiff) Ltd are really proud of what the centre and our team have achieved over the past 10 years. We have become a mature business centre with occupancy levels averaging 96 per cent and have been fully occupied on a number of occasions.

And plans for the future?

At The Business Centre (Cardiff) Ltd, we're always striving to continue to provide our customers with a 5* star service within our flexible, professional and highly supportive business model. Our passion is to help and support local businesses at an extremely competitive cost. So really, we just want the next 10 years to be as successful and supportive as the past ten years have been!

What does it mean to you to see the business doing so well compared to the idea 10 years ago?

We always knew that the concept of a fully serviced office facility in the Vale of Glamorgan was needed for businesses and that the business model offered an alternative way of renting versus the structured, non flexible leased facility. As a business we have provided support to over 200 companies and are extremely proud to have supported their growth along with supporting the local economy and businesses in the Vale and surrounding areas.

What improvements have been made to the building since opening 10 years ago?

Over the past five years, we have made various improvements to the centre. We have installed air conditioning facilities to 95 per cent of the building; solar panels and LED lighting has been installed; there's a new cafe facility which is run by Mel; plus our partnership with local personal training business operates from our free on-site gym facilities: FitM8 Personal Training.

Finally, do you have any advice for anyone who has a business idea in mind but isn't sure whether or not to make the jump?

Do it! Ten years ago we weren't to know that The Business Centre would mature and develop the way it has, but we're so glad that we took the risk! If you think that you have a gap in the market, or have an idea that would change the world, or even just one person's world, go for it.

There's a gym too!

There's no perfect age, or perfect time to start your own business, there's always going to be a slight risk but you won't know until you take your idea into your own hands and make it a reality.

There's never been a better time to start your own business and become your own boss, hopefully our story of success will help inspire your own!

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Young Farmers raise the Pavilion roof!

A TWO-EVENING stage spectacular culminated in Maendy YFC, with their original production *Ocean Commotion,* being crowned overall winners at the annual Glamorgan Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs entertainments competition.

This year's stage competition was held at the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl on February 3 and 4. The event is one of the highlights of the YFC calendar with members aged from 10 to 26 competing in pantomime, drama and entertainments in a three year rotation.

Each cast must adhere to a set of rules, challenging them to show off the best of their talents within a set time. Over the two nights of competition, the seven Glamorgan clubs each gave a show-stopping performance.

From singing and dancing to acting and acrobatics, there was something for all ages to sit back and enjoy, while the fate of performers was in the hands of the judge, David Price (GoDA).

Luckily for the judge, there was a collection of awards to present so every club is in with a chance of taking home silverware!

When the curtain falls on the final performance, the highly anticipated part of the weekend is the results and presentation awards. Maendy YFC won first place overall with their under the sea production *Ocean Commotion* which brought past member Richard Harris's script to life.

Best actress was awarded to Christina Thomas of Maendy YFC, while Tom Edwards of Wick YFC took home the award for best actor. The award for most promising under-14 member was presented to Iwan Llewellyn of Bridgend YFC.

Maendy's hard work paid off as they also scooped the awards for best technical and best director for Richard Western's vision and direction.

Wick YFC were runners up with their performance of *Tick Tock!*, another home-written play from club leader Charlotte Thomas, and Bridgend YFC were placed third with an original script entitled *The Night Zoo* by ex-member, Andrew John.

Chairman of Glamorgan Federation of Young Farmers' Club, Laura Elliott, said: "This is one of my favourite competitions of the year as it brings every club member together, whether it be performing, helping backstage or scenery and costume making, everyone should be very proud of the part they played.

"To see each club unveil its production is highly exciting; coupled with the backdrop of the Grand Pavilion, both evenings were a great achievement and brilliantly supported.

"I would like to wish Maendy YFC the very best of luck at the Wales YFC finals and encourage our loyal followers and any new enthusiasts to head just down the road to the Princess Royal Theatre, Port Talbot on Sunday, March 5 to support them."

South Wales Central AM and Leader of the Welsh Conservatives Andrew RT Davies, who is also president of Llantrisant YFC – attended the finals and said he was impressed by the standard of competition on show.

The winning Maendy cast.

The Wick cast were runners-up.

The Bridgend cast.

'Sugar dough' helps your bees through the winter months...

WINTER seems to have arrived of late, with easterly winds reducing temperatures to single figures, confining the bees to the hives.

However, Snowdrops are beginning to make their appearance so spring must be just around the corner. External checks are carried out at all of the apiaries on a regular basis to ensure all is as it should be.

In what we might call a normal year, winter should be a period when the bees settle into their survival mode.

They form a cluster, no regular external activity takes place and providing that they have in house stores (honey/pollen) they are well able to survive until the days start to lengthen and temperatures rise.

When winter conditions do prevail the beekeeper can get a little anxious and wonder if his/her colonies have come through the past 4/5 months.

The urge to open up a hive and check if all is well must be resisted.

It is not unusual to have one or two colonies die out. Why is this? Well the beekeeper may well be the cause by failing to provide for the welfare of the bees, or a colony might be too weak to stand the rigours of winter.

After all, winter does spell death for the weaklings of all species.

Alternatively, because of the mild conditions the bees have responded and lots of external activity has been observed. As I have pointed out previously, for bees to be active they require a food source to supply them with energy.

Where does the food supply come from? The in house stores!

Here at Fonmon I have a nucleus; this is a small box with a Queen and around 2,000 bees in it and so far I have been able to aid them in their winter survival by regular feeding.

The food I am giving them is called sugar dough and it looks just like readymade icing. It is, however, specially prepared for bees and they can consume it right off without having to process it in anyway.

The recent cold snap has caused all activity to cease, hence no feeding, but temperatures are set to rise so they may make it yet.

All in all things are looking pretty good, a warm spring will be a big help as a good number of new beekeepers are signed up for the courses run by the society.

For them to get hands on experience we require fair weather to enable the hives to be opened up. It is at this stage that these new beekeepers will find out if they are comfortable with their desire to become a beekeeper, as an active hive of bees is not everyone's cup of tea.

I am, of course, regularly checking on the Varroa Mites. Others do believe that their colonies are free of mites and they do not have a problem.

There are even those who believe the Varroa comes in on equipment ie, hive boxes and frames. This is not likely because the mite can only survive if bees are present. No bees = No mites!

The introduction of swarms to an apiary will bring in Varroa Mites. The Varroa is a worldwide problem – and that is a fact.

HAROLD WILLIAMS.

LAWRENCE WINS, AGAIN

Laurence Hunt is congratulated by the president of Swansea Valley Rotary.

SOME readers may remember that last November saw the Rotary Club of Porthcawl host the opening round of the Rotary Young Musician competition and that the winner that evening was Laurence Hunt, a pupil at Porthcawl Comprehensive School, who had won his way through to the next round.

That round was held last Wednesday, hosted by the Rotary Club of Swansea Valley, at Ysgol Gyfun Ystalyfera where Laurence found himself competing against musicians from Ysgol Gyfun itself, and Llantwit Major Comprehensive School.

The Club is pleased to announce that Laurence was victorious again, having played two piano pieces – Brahms' *Balladen No 1 Opus 10* and Chopin's *Nocturn No 20 in C sharp minor* to a superb standard.

The club congratulates Laurence once more and wishes him well for the next stage of the RIBI Young Musician Competition in Cardiff on March 4.

Ivor Williams

GOT A STORY? Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk or call 01446 774484

Ysgol Bro Morgannwg wins the area 'Youth Speaks' final

Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg: Winning senior team, left to right: Elin Alexander, Nia Brown, Tirion Davies and Rotary assistant district governor Gareth Rees.

THE Rotary Club of Barry has sponsored the winning team in the Area 4 final of the Youth Speaks competition, one of several competitions organised by the Rotary movement, specifically designed to develop students' skills.

The Area 4 final of the Rotary Youth Speaks competition was held on January 30 in Cardiff Golf Club and was hosted by the Rotary Club of Llanishen.

Winners in the senior section (14 – 18 year olds) were the team from Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Barry, whose chosen topic was, 'Is modern education destructive?'

Their team was chaired by Tirion Davies, their speaker was Nia Brown and their vote of thanks was given by Elin Alexander. Nia Brown also won the prize for best speaker.

Second place went to the team from Whitchurch High School, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Cardiff Breakfast.

In line with national rules, all speakers had to answer a question from the audience to show their understanding of their chosen topic. Judges were Phil McCaffery and Ifor Morgan from Cardiff Speakers Club.

At the end of the evening, the judges congratulated all participants saying that they had set some very high standards.

The next round of this competition is the district final, which will be held at Cowbridge Comprehensive School on Saturday, March 11.

Barry Round Table celebrates 60 years' service to community

Barry Round Table members with Barry Mayor, back row from left: Nathan Spackman, David Beadle (chairman), Gareth Williams, Matthew Davies, Nick Critten. Middle row, from left: Andrew Rosser, Barry Dyer, Charlotte Williams (Barry Town Mayor), Stuart Taylor (president). At the front: Scott Bosher and Anthony Price (vice chairman).

ABOVE: Barry Ladies' Circle get into the spirit of the 1950s, from the left: Louise Dyer, Alex Critten, Amy Beadle, Veronica Ayers and Janine Rosser.

BARRY Round Table marked 60 years of supporting the community with a 1950s-themed dinner dance for 50 guests.

Among those present were Charlotte Williams, the Barry Town Mayor, Steven Grew, Round Table Great Britain and Ireland vice president, and past members, family and friends.

A spokesperson said: "Barry Town United AFC hosted the evening at their clubhouse providing an excellent backdrop for the evening.

"Over the past 60 years Barry Round Table has raised hundreds of thousands of pounds, which has included the construction of two buildings and conversion of a rail carriage as a holiday home.

"Roundel House on Maesycym Street built in 1978 was funded by the raising of £83,000 through various fundraisers including selling bricks on King Square!

"The night was about highlighting and thanking the past and welcoming in the future – the welcoming of our newest member Nick Critten to the Table topped this off.

"Nick's joining has brought our membership now up to nine members. Just a few years ago we were just two members and on the brink of closure – with nine members we can now get ourselves set to #DoMore in the coming years!

"Round Table not only supports the community, it is also a great opportunity for the individual members to develop new skills and take part in some amazing social activities. These developments and opportunities are a great way for young men to support their positive well-being and mental health.

"Charlotte Williams said that Barry Round Table is an essential element to Barry town and one that has done some amazing work in the past year, and over the past 60 years – and she wished them great success in the future.

"A raffle in support of Noah's Ark Children's Hospital Charity raised an amazing £330 with thanks to donated prizes by Lee and Andrew Selby, Brawd Men's Health, Ms Fit Women, Waitrose, Tesco, Co-op, Umpa Lumpa Sweet Shop, Poundland, Nisa Vere Street, Lloyds Pharmacy, Quaser, ASDA, Whitmore and Jackson, Cherry Orchard and Healing Touch – special thanks also goes to Francesca Cakes, JPL Sound and AskFrank for their help getting the night just right.

"A very special part of the night was seeing Barry Ladies' Circle, who are re-establishing themselves in Barry, attend the evening, enjoying themselves and forming a huge part of the Round Table family."

If anyone aged from 18 to 45 is interested in finding out more about Barry Round Table or Barry Ladies' Circle, visit barry.roundtable.co.uk or facebook.com/barryladiescircle to see what each group has planned for the next few months.

GOT A STORY?
Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk or call 01446 774484

Guides helping to pack the shopping.

The Dinas Powys Guides boost local appeal for mini bus

COMMUNITY support from the Guides has boosted funds for the Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern minibus appeal.

The 6th Dinas Powys Guides spent the day bag packing at Morrisons in aid of the minibus appeal. The girls chose DPVC as the charity they wanted to help as part of their community action section of the Guide programme. By the end of the day they had raised £450 – thanks to the generosity of the Morrisons customers and their own excellent bag packing skills.

Huge thanks goes to the community champion at Morrisons, Carolyn, for helping to organise the day and for also giving DPVC vouchers towards their refreshments for their next event, a quiz night.

John Fanshaw, chair of the charity, expressed his thanks for the Guides and the public's support. He said: "We also received enquiries from people who were interested in learning more about the work of Voluntary Concern.

"We have a substantial number of residents who already help but we always are keen to attract more."

For more information on Guiding in Dinas Powys, contact the District Commissioner on 07765 513424; to find out more about DPVC, contact 029 2051 3700.

KINDNESS OF BIRD TABLE APPRECIATED IN COLD WEATHER!

The cold weather has had the birds flocking to a bird table in Bryncethin. PHOTOS by SUSAN DOBBS.

Lions' charity lunch

JOIN Lions legends Shane Williams, Lee Byrne, Mike Hall, Brynmor Williams and All Black Xavier Rush for a special lunch raising funds for Velindre Cancer Care.

They will be looking ahead at the British and Irish Lions Tour of New Zealand this summer, and back at previous tours. The event will be compèred by Carolyn Hitt.

Taking place at the Principality Stadium on Friday, May 19 from 1pm, guests will enjoy a drink on arrival, a three-course meal and plenty of stories and behind the scenes tales from previous Lions' tours.

There will also be a raffle and auction with items up for grabs. Guests will also have the opportunity to ask the panel any burning questions.

Tables of 10 are priced at £750 or individual tickets £75. Book online at www.velindrefundraising.com/bookonline.

Local pupils are Oxbridge bound

Oxbridge Success

CONGRATULATIONS to Nia Fenn and Caleb Darwin (left) of Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg, Barry, both year-13 pupils, on their successful application to study at Oxbridge from September 2017 onwards.

Nia who studies history, biology, chemistry and the Welsh Baccalaureate will study human sciences at Oxford.

Caleb studies history, mathematics, geography and the Welsh Baccalaureate, and will study human, social and political sciences at Cambridge.

Both students deserve this success and follow the three successful candidates from last year who gained Oxbridge entry.

Ski trip

IN January, 58 year-8 pupils spent a week skiing in Montgenevre, France with six members of staff and had a fantastic time.

Not only did they learn to ski, but they also tried ice skating, a skidoo ride, bum boarding and swimming. Thanks to Mr Beynon for arranging the trip.

Sixth Form options evening

AN options evening for present year-11 pupils considering continuing with their studies at Key Stage 5 was held on January 26.

Following a presentation by the headteacher regarding the academic standards and opportunities available to students at Key Stage 5, every department provided presentations to the parents and pupils regarding course content and possible employment opportunities.

KH

If you can stand heat, get into the kitchen!

RIGHT: James Sommerin with Cardiff and Vale College students.

THE Chefs' Forum staged 'A Chefs' Lunch' at Cardiff and Vale College recently at which hospitality students had the opportunity to learn from industry experts as they welcomed chefs from Purple Poppadom, St David's Hotel and Restaurant James Sommerin.

The Chefs' Forum holds a culinary convention in Wales each quarter and showcases students from Cardiff and Vale College working front of house and in the kitchen, under renowned local chefs and hospitality experts.

The college has won a string of accolades including an AA Rosette for The Classroom Restaurant, which is now a finalist in the Cardiff Life Awards for 'Best Restaurant'.

Earlier this year student Amy Hoskins (21), came in 12th place out of 50 competing countries in a worldwide college cookery competition, the International Young Chef Olympiad, which took place in India.

The learners worked in the kitchen with top chefs to serve a delicious four-course lunch for more than 60 culinary experts.

The chefs mentoring Cardiff and Vale students were Anand George (Purple Poppadom), Martyn Watkins (St David's Hotel and Spa) and James Sommerin (Restaurant James Sommerin).

The 'pay what you can' lunch raised £900 in donations made to The Chefs' Forum Educational Foundation.

Michelin-starred chef James Sommerin commented: "Today has been amazing. I would happily welcome Cardiff and Vale learners into my kitchen based on their impressive performance today.

"It was really pleasing to see them attempt and conquer some complex cooking techniques that may well have been out of their comfort zone."

Rescued Thai street dog 'learns to paint'

Emily Harvey with Tui.

A RESCUED street dog is learning to paint, thanks to a guide dog trainer in the Vale.

Emily Harvey of Penmark fell in love with puppy Tui when she and husband Tony volunteered at an animal sanctuary in Thailand last year.

After a 25-hour trip involving a plane, ferry and car, the couple brought her to Wales, where Tui's 'artistic talents' soon emerged.

Emily was so impressed that she filmed Tui as she painted, posting the results on YouTube.

The film shows Tui with a brush in her mouth, painting green strokes on a piece of paper propped up on a makeshift easel.

When Emily asks the dog what she thinks of the picture so far, Tui hides her face with her paw 'as if embarrassed'.

The dog then completes the picture by adding some pink strokes, taking a bow when the final work of art is revealed.

Emily has named the painting 'Memories of Thailand' and plans to frame it.

"Tui is the love of our life," said Emily. "She'll never be a guide dog, but she's really clever. I've taught her lots of tricks including fetching beer from the fridge.

"I've just started teaching her doggy dancing, something I've never done before, although I've always wanted to."

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

(CROSS COMMON ROAD, DINAS POWYS (RHAN)) (CAU FFORDD) (DROS DRO) 2017

Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Adran 14 Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 (fel y'i diwygiwyd) a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill, yn bwriadu, o fewn dim llai na saith diwrnod o ddyddiad yr Hysbysiad hwn, wneud Gorchymyn a fydd yn gwneud yr hyn a ddisgrifir yn yr atodlenni isod: -

ATODLEN 1

1. Ni fydd unrhyw berson yn achosi neu'n caniatáu i gerbyd modur deithio yn y lleoliad a nodir yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATODLEN 2

Lleoliad	Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys rhwng y gyffordd â'r A4055 Ffordd Caerdydd a'r gyffordd â Wellwood Drive.
Rheswm	I allu tynnu dec y bont o'r hen bont dros Afon Cadoxton.
Hyd	O 6 Mawrth 2017 am hyd at 18 mis.
Llwybr Amgen	Bydd gwyriadau i draffig ar gael trwy gyffordd y ffordd newydd oddi ar Ffordd Caerdydd sydd i'r de o gyffordd Cross Common Road.

DS: Cynhelir mynediad i gerddwyr trwy'r bont droed bresennol.

Dyddiedig 23 Chwefror 2017

M. E. Punter,
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Gweladwy a Thai
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Depo'r Alpau,
Gwenfô. CF5 6AA.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

(CROSS COMMON ROAD, DINAS POWYS (PART)) (ROAD CLOSURE) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2017

The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), and of all other enabling powers intends in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below: -

SCHEDULE 1

1. No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to proceed in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location	Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys between its junction with the A4055 Cardiff Road and its junction with Wellwood Drive.
Reason	To allow for the removal of the bridge deck from the old bridge over the Cadoxton River.
Duration	From 6th March 2017 for a maximum period of 18 Months.
Alt. Route	Diversions for traffic will be available via the new road junction off Cardiff Road located to the South of Cross Common Road junction.

NB: Pedestrian access shall be maintained via the existing footbridge.

Dated this 23rd day of February 2017

M. E Punter,
Director of Visible Services & Housing
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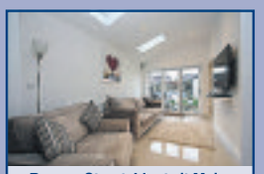

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Advertisers please note : deadline for Classified Section is 5pm Monday (to appear in the following week's edition). Telephone 01446 774484. email: vanessa.james@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

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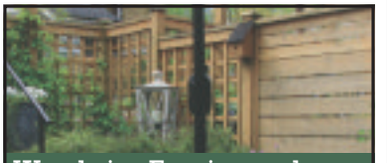

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Family Notices

HUNT
Kathleen

Peacefully on February 16th in Parkside House, Penarth, Kathleen, aged 91 years, of Barry. Beloved wife of the late David, dearly loved mum to Tim and Liz. Mother-in-law to Mark and a devoted nanny to Zachary and Finley.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service at the Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Tuesday, February 28 at 4pm (where friends please meet). Family flowers only please, donations, if wished, for the Alzheimer's Society may be sent to the funeral home.

MURPHY
Michael

Peacefully on February 15th at the University Hospital of Wales, in the arms of his devoted wife Carol - Mike, well known for his time at British Rail within Cardiff & the Vale. Much loved pappy of Michelle, Haydn and their families. Loving brother to Brian, Carole, Geraldine and Christopher.

He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Michael is in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Barry until a private family service at home on Thursday, 2nd March. All are welcome to join the family at Cardiff & Glamorgan for a committal service at 3pm. Family floral tributes only - donations if desired may be made at the crematorium service or via Mike's online tribute page at www.valefuneralservice.co.uk, where you are also welcome to leave your personal messages and memories.

All donations received will support the work of Cancer Research Wales.

HAWKINS
Patricia

Suddenly at home on February 7, Nanna Pat, well known within the community of Barry and beloved wife to Trevor. An adored mum of Heidi, Hayley, Mark, Adrienne, Kirsty and the late Ashley. A cherished nan and great nan, loving sister to Brian. *'Reunited with Ashley'*.

Resting in the private chapel of The Vale Funeral Service, Barry until Pat's service at Coastlands Family Church, Tennyson Road, Colcot, Barry on Monday, February 27th at 11.15am, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery.

Family flowers only - donations, if desired, may be made at the service or via Pat's online tribute page at www.valefuneralservice.co.uk.

All donations will support Cancer Research UK.

Funeral arrangements entrusted to Lyndsay Ellis, 01446 407962.

THOMAS
John

(Thomas Brothers Funeral Directors)

Peacefully on Tuesday, February 21, John loving husband of the late Eira. Much loved father.

He will be greatly missed.

Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on Thursday, March 2 at 2.45pm. No flowers or donations by request.

Enquiries telephone 01446 775681.

KIFF
Eileen Mary

Peacefully on February 17th at Bella Vista Nursing Home after a short illness, formerly of Tynewydd Road, Barry.

Resting at Park Funeral Directors until her service at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium Barry on Friday, 24th, February at 2pm.

Family flowers only. Donations, in lieu of flowers, to Bella Vista Nursing Home, if desired.

INGRAM
Alan David

Suddenly on 30 January 2017, Alan of St Athan. Husband of Jan and father of Paul and John.

Funeral service on Wednesday, 1 March in Coychurch Crematorium at 11am. All enquiries W.A. Brown & Son, College Street, Llantwit Major, 01446 792489

SUTTON
John Duncan Dale

Passed away on February 8, 2017. Beloved husband of the late Rita, and a dearly loved dad and granddad. John will be sadly missed by family and friends.

Funeral service to be held on Monday, March 6 in Coychurch Crematorium at 2.15pm. Family flowers only but donations may be made to Alzheimer's Society c/o the Funeral Directors (cheques only please).

PEET
Margaret

Peacefully, at the University Hospital of Wales, Margaret Peet (formerly O'Callaghan) passed away on 28 January 2017.

Stephen, Peter and Jan would like to thank family and friends for their support, also thanks to the staff at UHW, Rev Melanie Prince and W James & Sons, Funeral Directors.

IVES
Robert Henry (Bob)

On Wednesday, 8th February at the University Hospital of Wales, Bob of Ystradowen. Devoted husband to Rose, cherished dad to Jen and Jac. Adored papa to Alex and Madi and a very special and much loved father-in-law, brother and uncle.

He will be sadly missed by all who loved and knew him.

Funeral service on Wednesday, 1st March at 2.15pm at Coychurch Crematorium, followed by refreshments at Ystradowen Village Hall.

Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, may be made to The British Heart Foundation, c/o W.H. Preene & Son, Mwyndy, Pontyclun, CF72 8PN.

COLE
Gillian Mary (Gill)

12.5.1935 - 17.2.2017

Passed away peacefully at home. Wife of the late George, loving mother of Glenn and Julie, grandmother of Philip and Richard.

Funeral arrangements by Thomas Brothers on Friday, 3 March at 1.15pm at the Church of St John the Baptist, Llanblethian, followed by Coychurch Crematorium.

Family flowers only and donations for breast cancer research to Cancer Research Wales, Velindre Hospital, Whitchurch, Cardiff CF14 2TL.

Thanks to staff at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Caring Companions and Dr McGovern at Western Vale Health Centre.

WOODS
Barry

Peacefully on 15th February 2017 at the University Hospital Wales, Barry, aged 68 years. Dearly loved husband of Maureen, stepdad to David and Abi, Lee and Michelle. Cherished bampy to all his step grandchildren. He will also be sadly missed by his mum Beryl, brothers Paul, Nigel, Ian and their partners.

Resting at the Vale Funeral Service, Barry until the funeral at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Tuesday, 28th February at 3pm.

Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to the Critical Care Unit via the funeral directors.

PRICE
John Terence (Pricey)

Sadly passed away at Holme Tower on 12th February 2017, John of Llantwit Major. Dearly loved husband of Terry and loving father of Katy and Samantha. He will be missed by grandchildren Ethan and Olivia. Respected father-in-law of Dai and Gareth and a much loved brother to Linda, brother-in-law of Leslie, Stephen, Stella and Alan, beloved uncle of Ellie.

Resting at W.A. Brown & Son, College Street, Llantwit Major until the funeral service in St.Illtud's Church on Tuesday, 28th February at 10.15am, followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium at 11.30am. Family flowers only, but donations may be made to Marie Curie c/o the Funeral Home (cheques only please).

Acknowledgements

HELLIWELL
Roger

Margaret, Stephen and Cathy would like to thank all those who attended Roger's funeral and for the many cards and donations for Marie Curie.

Our grateful thanks to all the staff at Marie Curie, the district nurses and the medical staff.

MORGAN
Charles (Charlie)

Marilyn and family wish to thank all those who attended Charles' Celebration of Life and those who sent messages of sympathy.

A donation of £500 for Velindre Hospital were made in memory of Charles. Special thanks go to all Charlies' Angels at Bluebird Care, the district nurses for their care and Steve Parry for his meaningful service. Also, Rebecca and staff at A.G. Adams Funeralcare for their support.

In Memory

TINTO
Rose

(1 March 2014)

Love never dies nor do our memories of you.

Your loving husband Bill of 56 years and children Karen & Christopher

xxx

Birthdays

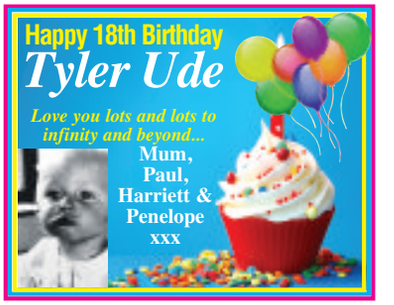
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

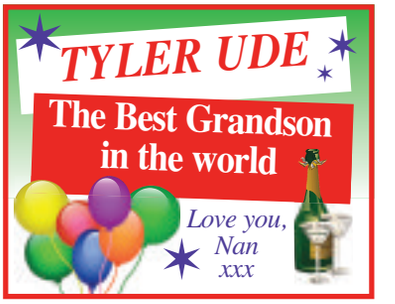
Tim Chapman

28th February

Best wishes from all your friends at the GEM

Birthdays





Tyler Ude

A very happy 18th Birthday to our dear great grandson

Have a good one'
All our love alwc
you - love Grc
and Gramps x.

18

HAPPY **70th** *BIRTHDAY*

Leslie White

on 23rd February

Love from your lovely wife Avr
sons Mark & Carl, daughter
Cheryl and grandsons Aden & Ethan
xxx

Happy 80th Birthday

Mike Dancey

on 21st February

Love from Kay, Chris, Jane and Morgan, Gary, Jo, Jessica and Lowri xxx

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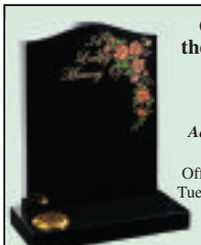

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Birthday Announcement

90 90

The family of

Dorothy Rogers

(formerly of Montgomery Road, now at Gower Court, Barry) would love all friends and neighbours old and new to join them to celebrate

Dot's 90th Birthday

(20.02.2017) on Saturday 25th February, between 2pm - 4pm at the Margaret Alexander Community Centre, Alexandra Crescent, Barry, CF62 7HU. Refreshments provided.

Anniversary

Congratulations

70th

Wedding Anniversary

Mair and Jack Stevens (Formerly of Rhoose)

on your 70th Wedding Anniversary on 24 February 2017

Lots of Love

Sylvia, Gerald & family xxx

Public Notice

LICENSING ACT 2003
Section 17 (5)
Notice of Application for a Premises Licence
NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT
An application has been made to Bridgend County Borough Council (the Licensing Authority) for a **PREMISES LICENCE** to permit licensable activities which it is proposed will be carried on, on or from the premises shown below. Details of the application may be inspected between the hours of: Monday to Thursday 0830 to 1700 hours and Friday 0830 to 1630 hours at Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB or by visiting the authority's website: www.bridgend.gov.uk.
Any responsible authority or any other person may make representations in respect of the application, which must be submitted, in writing, to the following address before the date shown below: *Licensing Section, Bridgend County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB.*
NAME OF APPLICANT: **Awen Cultural Trust**
NAME AND POSTAL ADDRESS OF THE PREMISES: **Carnegie House, 14 Wyndham Street, Bridgend, CF31 1EF**
STATEMENT OF INTENDED LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES: (1) **Light entertainment programme to include plays, music, comedy, film and dance supported by bar and refreshments. Events will take place a few times a week on varying days and times but no earlier than 10.30am and with a finish time of no later than 11pm**
DATE BY WHICH REPRESENTATIONS MUST BE MADE: This notice remains in force from and including the day after the giving of this notice to the licensing authority, namely 8th February 2017, for 28 consecutive days. It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine on summary conviction is £5,000.
(1) This must include details of activities, type of entertainment and appropriate days and times.

PUBLIC NOTICE
LICENSING ACT 2003
To whom it may concern:
I/We, **Sadek Mohamed & Akeel Akeel,** trading as **Island Grill,** do hereby give notice of an application to the Vale of Glamorgan Council Licensing Authority for the grant of a premises licence at the address: **16 Broad Street, Barry** known as **Island Grill.** This application is for **A3 Restaurant and Takeaway from 12 noon until 2am, Monday to Sunday.**
Any person wishing to make representations to this application may do so by writing to Vale of Glamorgan Council Licensing Department, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU, not later than 28 days after the date of this notice. Representations received after this date will not be considered. It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make false statements in connection with this application, the maximum fine on summary conviction being £5,000.
Signed: **Ian Treleaven Fitzherbert** (agent for applicants)
Date: 20th February 2017

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Public Notices

NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF MODIFICATION ORDER
WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981, SECTION 53
THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER 2014
(No.DMO/53/416)

The above named Order, made on 30 September 2014, was confirmed with modifications by the Welsh Ministers on 3 February 2017.

The effect of the Order as confirmed is to modify the Definitive Map and Statement by the adding of a footpath from Romilly Park Road to Public Footpath 72a at the rear of 39 Porth-Y-Castell, Barry.

A copy of the Order as confirmed and the Order map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the Docks Office, Subway Road, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan CF63 4RT during normal office hours. Copies of the Order and map may be bought there at a price of £4.50.

The Order comes into force on 3 February 2017 but if any person aggrieved by the Order wants to question the validity thereof, or of any provision contained therein, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, or on the ground that any requirement of the Act, or any regulation made thereunder, has not been complied with in relation to the Order, he or she may, under paragraph 12 of Schedule 15 to the Act, within 42 days from 23 February 2017 make application for the purpose to the High Court.

Dated this 23 February 2017

HYSBYSIAD CADARNAHAU ADDASU GORCHYMYN
DEDDF BYWYD GWYLLT A CHEFN GWLAD 1981, ADRAN 53
CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG
GORCHYMYN ADDASU MAP SWYDDOGOL 2014
(Rhif.DMO/53/416)

Cadarnhawyd y Gorchymyn a enwir uchod, a wnaed ar 30 Medi 2014, gydag addasiadau gan Weinidogion Cymru ar 3 Chwefror 2017.

Bydd y Gorchymyn fel y'i cadarnhawyd yn addasu'r Map a Datganiad Swyddogol trwy ychwanegu llwybr cerdded o Romilly Park Road i Lwybr cyhoeddus 72a yng nghefn 39 Porth-Y-Castell, Y Barri.

Mae copi o'r Gorchymyn fel y'i cadarnhawyd a map y Gorchymyn wedi eu gosod a gellir mynd i'w gweld am ddim yn Swyddfa'r Dociau, Heol yr Iwbreidd, Y Barri, Bro Morgannwg, CF63 4RT yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol. Gellir prynu copïau o'r Gorchymyn a map y Gorchymyn yno am £4.50.

Daw'r Gorchymyn i rym ar 3 Chwefror 2017 ond os yw unrhyw berson y mae'r Gorchymyn yn peri gofid iddo am gwestiyna dilysrwydd y Gorchymyn neu unrhyw ddarpariaethau sydd ynddo, ar y sail nad ydynt yn unol â phwerau Deddf Bywyd Gwyllt a Chefn Gwlad 1981 neu ar y sail nas cydymffurfiwyd ag unrhyw un o ofynion y Ddeddf, neu unrhyw offeryn a wnaed dan y Ddeddf mewn perthynas â'r Gorchymyn, gall of neu hi, dan baragraff 12 Atodlen 15 y Ddeddf, ymhen 42 diwrnod o 23 Chwefror 2017, wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys at y diben hwn.

Dyddiedig 23 Chwefror 2017

NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER
HIGHWAYS ACT 1980
THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
(PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO 48 ST BRIDES MAJOR)
PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER 2016

On the 14 February 2017 the Vale of Glamorgan Council confirmed the above Order made under section 119 of the Highways Act 1980.

The effect of the Order as confirmed is to divert the public footpath to the east of Portobello House from a line running from NGR 287389 176272 to the adopted highway, NGR 287758 176460 to a line running from NGR 287389 176272 to the adopted highway, NGR 287662 176249 as set out in the Schedule and shown in the Order map.

A copy of the Order as confirmed and the Order map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the Docks Office, Subway Road, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan CF63 4RT during normal office hours. Copies of the Order and map may be bought there at a price of £4.50.

This Order comes into force on 14 February 2017, but if a person aggrieved by the Order wants to question its validity, or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the Highways Act 1980, as amended, or on the ground that any requirement of the Act, as amended, or of any regulation made under the Act has not been complied with in relation to the Order, he or she may, under paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from 23 February 2017 make an application to the High Court.

Dated this 23 February 2017

HYSBYSIAD CADARNHAU GORCHYMYN LLWYBR CYHOEDDUS DEDDF PRIFFYRDD 1980
CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG
GORCHYMYN GWYRO LLWYBR CYHOEDDUS
(LLWYBR TROED CYHOEDDUS RHIF 48 SAINT-Y-BRID) 2016

Ar 14 Chwefror 2017 cadarnhaodd Gyngor Bro Morgannwg y Gorchymyn uchod a wnaed dan adran 119 Deddf Priffyrdd 1980.

Bydd y Gorchymyn hwn, fel y'i cadarnhair, yn gwyro'r llwybr troed cyhoeddus i'r dwyrain o Portobello House o linell sy'n mynd o bwynt Cyfeirnod Grid Cenedlaethol 287389 176272 at y briffordd fabwysiedig. Cyfeirnod 287758 176460 tyd at linell sy'n mynd o bwynt Cyfeirnod 287389 176272 at y briffordd fabwysiedig. 287662 176249 fel y dangys ar fap y Gorchymyn.

Mae copi o'r Gorchymyn fel y'i cadarnhawyd a map y Gorchymyn wedi eu gosod a gellir mynd i'w gweld am ddim yn Swyddfa'r Dociau, Heol yr Iwbreidd, Y Barri, Bro Morgannwg, CF63 4RT yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol. Gellir prynu copïau o'r Gorchymyn a map y Gorchymyn yno am £4.50.

Daw'r Gorchymyn i rym ar 14 Chwefror 2017, ond os bydd person yn teimlo ei fod wedi'i drangwyddo gan y Gorchymyn ac yn amau ei ddilysrwydd, neu unrhyw ddarpariaethau sydd wedi'u cynnwys ynddo, ar y sail nad yw o fewn pwerau Deddf Priffyrdd 1980 fel y'i diwygiwyd, neu ar y sail na chydymffurfiwyd ag unrhyw un o ofynion y Ddeddf, fel y'i diwygiwyd, neu unrhyw reoliad a wnaed dan y Ddeddf mewn cysylltiad â'r Gorchymyn, gall, dan baragraff 2 Atodlen 2 y Ddeddf fel y nodir yn mharagraff 5 Atodlen 6 o'r Ddeddf, o fewn 6 wythnos o 23 Chwefror 2017 wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys.

Dyddiad: 23 Chwefror 2017

NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER
HIGHWAYS ACT 1980
THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
(PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO 50 ST BRIDES MAJOR
PUBLIC PATH CREATION ORDER 2016

On the 14 February 2017 the Vale of Glamorgan Council confirmed the above Order made under section 26 of the Highways Act 1980.

The effect of the Order as confirmed is to create a public footpath from the adopted highway, B4524 (NGR 287574 176244) to the adopted highway, B4524 (NGR 288309 176872) as set out in the Schedule and shown in the Order map.

A copy of the Order as confirmed and the Order map may be seen free of charge at the Docks Office, Subway Road, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan CF63 4RT during normal office hours. Copies of the Order and map may be bought there at a price of £4.50.

This Order comes into force on 14 February 2017, but if a person aggrieved by the Order wants to question its validity, or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the Highways Act 1980, as amended, or on the ground that any requirement of the Act, as amended, or of any regulation made under the Act has not been complied with in relation to the Order, he or she may, under paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from 23 February 2017 make an application to the High Court.

Dated this 23 February 2017

HYSBYSIAD CADARNHAU GORCHYMYN LLWYBR CYHOEDDUS DEDDF PRIFFYRDD 1980
CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG
GORCHYMYN CREU LLWYBR CYHOEDDUS
(LLWYBR TROED CYHOEDDUS RHIF 50 SAINT-Y-BRID) 2016

Ar 14 Chwefror 2017 cadarnhaodd Gyngor Bro Morgannwg y Gorchymyn uchod a wnaed dan adran 26 Deddf Priffyrdd 1980.

Bydd y Gorchymyn hwn, fel y'i cadarnhair, yn creu llwybr troed cyhoeddus o'r briffordd fabwysiedig, B4524 (pwynt Cyfeirnod Grid Cenedlaethol 287574 176244) i'r briffordd fabwysiedig, B4524 (pwynt Cyfeirnod Grid Cenedlaethol 288309 176872) fel y dangys ar fap y Gorchymyn.

Gellir gweld copi o'r Gorchymyn fel y'i cadarnhawyd a map y Gorchymyn am ddim yn Swyddfa'r Dociau, Heol yr Iwbreidd, Y Barri, Bro Morgannwg, CF63 4RT yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol. Gellir prynu copïau o'r Gorchymyn a map y Gorchymyn yno am £4.50.

Daw'r Gorchymyn i rym ar 14 Chwefror 2017, ond os bydd person yn teimlo ei fod wedi'i drangwyddo gan y Gorchymyn ac yn amau ei ddilysrwydd, neu unrhyw ddarpariaethau sydd wedi'u cynnwys ynddo, ar y sail nad yw o fewn pwerau Deddf Priffyrdd 1980 fel y'i diwygiwyd, neu ar y sail na chydymffurfiwyd ag unrhyw un o ofynion y Ddeddf, fel y'i diwygiwyd, neu unrhyw reoliad a wnaed dan y Ddeddf mewn cysylltiad â'r Gorchymyn, gall, dan baragraff 2 Atodlen 2 y Ddeddf fel y nodir yn mharagraff 5 Atodlen 6 o'r Ddeddf, o fewn 6 wythnos o 23 Chwefror 2017 wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys.

Dyddiad: 23 Chwefror 2017

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GLAMORGAN FARMERS' GOLF SOCIETY HOLDS ANNUAL PRESENTATION NIGHT

THE annual presentation dinner and dance for members of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society was held recently at The Bear Hotel, Cowbridge with 120 attending.

Society captain Geraint Davies proposed a toast to the guests with Ryan Davies responding.

Following the presentation of the many silver cups and trophies awarded to the successful winners, attendees danced the night away to the live band Bogart.

The society were particularly pleased to welcome to the function Mrs Daphne Morgan and her family who had earlier presented a magnificent silver cup in memory of her late husband Wil Morgan, who captained the society in 1988.

Society members are now looking forward to Thursday, February 23, for the traditional captain's drive-in when incoming captain Raymond Thomas will be launching his opening drive up the first fairway at Southerndown Golf Club.

Winners for year 2016/2017:

Southerndown, 25th February, 2016 - David Williams 39; Fairwood Park, 31st March, 2016 - Julian Kelly 33; Cottrell Park (Button)

28th April, 2016 - Huw Williams, 33; Wenvoe, 26th May, 2016 - Reggie Davies 36; Mendip Spring, 24th June, 2016 - Tony McCarthy 35; Langland Bay, 28th July, 2016 - John Caines/Tony McCarthy 35; Cradoc, Brecon, 25th August, 2016 - Clive Thomas 35; Rhondda, 29th September, 2016 - Gareth Perkins 33; St. Pierre, 27th October, 2016 - John Thomas 34; Radyr, 24th November, 2016 - David Llewellyn 31; St. Athan, 15th December, 2016 - Julian Kelly 34; Cottrell Park (Button), 26th January, 2017 - Clive Thomas 35.

Annual golfing holiday at north Devon (David Evans Trophy) - winner Geraint Davies; Keith Jewell Memorial Trophy (played at Vale Resort) - winner Dan Jarvis, runner-up Mark Rees. Hibby Trophy - winner David Williams, 39 points (Southerndown).

Presidents Putter - winner David Williams 249 points, second John Caines 239 points, third Julian Golunski 233 points, fourth Clive Edwards 229 points, fifth Reggie Davies 228 points, sixth Martyn Edwards, Clive Thomas, Trevor Wooding (all 227 points), ninth Tim Jarvis 220 points, 10th Tony McCarthy 218 points.

Par 3 Competition - winner Julian Golunski 88 points, second Tony McCarthy, Brian Jones (both 86 points), fourth Trevor Wooding 76 points, fifth Clive Thomas 74 points, sixth David Williams 73 points, seventh Mike King 72 points.

T.McC

Barry RFC ladies are beaten down west

BARRY RFC ladies travelled the lengthy journey down to Haverfordwest for their latest league fixture.

With a bare 15 players Barry knew it was going to be a long hard game.

The home side started the brighter and immediately pressurised Barry who were unusually rusty failing to take the kick off.

After numerous phases the home side crossed for their first try and conversion.

It appeared that the writing was on the wall however with words of encouragement from the side lines, Barry weathered the storm. Solid defence from Deeks and Williams prevented another quick score.

Barry then grew in confidence, breaking out of defence and were awarded a penalty deep in the Haverfordwest half. Unfortunately following a break down in communication possession from a tapped penalty went straight back to the home side.

Both sets of supporters were witnesses to some shuddering hits from both sides with props Jordan, Heyes and Cahill making several huge tackles.

The home stand off then punished Barry in discipline at the break down with some raking touch kicks.

From a resulting line out and good support play Haverfordwest crossed again and converted.

Barry then had a purple patch and took it to their opponents with the forwards Dix, Jordan, Husk and Cahill making surging drives.

With a first score on the cards in the home 22, Barry twice knocked on. Williams then sprinted back to make a try-saving tackle deep in the 22.

Haverfordwest's impressive link up play made it virtually impossible to defend against and they crossed for another try, duly converted by their excellent stand off.

Barry's defence was again put under tremendous pressure, only for another try saving tackle to be made by winger Sara Rees Jones. The half-time score was 21-0.

With the coaches' encouragement in their ears, Barry made the worst possible start.

They failed to pressurise the catcher and following one offload the open side flanker waltzed through some weak defence to score under the posts.

After all the hard work in the first half it looked as if Barry were looking down and out. However, they started playing with renewed confidence, aided by Deeks' counter-attacking and good exit strategy.

Barry's tackling was awesome from Owen, Mahon and Rees (the shortest second row who never took a step backwards).

Despite two further quick tries stretching the home side's advantage, but Barry never stopped trying to play rugby.

Further crunching try-saving tackles were made by Deeks and the best by Mahon and Jordan to stop certain tries, the latter causing a potentially serious injury to the Haverfordwest player, and the coaching staff and players wish her a speedy recovery.

It is testament to the defensive qualities that in the last quarter Haverfordwest only succeeded with a long range penalty.

Perry, Fox-Maybe and Deeks started running attacking lines and succeeded in penetrating a tiring Haverfordwest midfield. However, the deserved consolation score did not prevail, with Barry ending the game on the front foot with Dix and Cahill driving the pack and team out of defence.

The final score was 41-0.

Team: Deeks, V Williams, Fox-Maybe, Jones, G Williams, Shanahan (c), Jordan, Cahill, Heyes, Rees, Owen , Mahon, Huskie and Dix.

The management proudly commented that there were many more positives than negatives from this fixture.

Training together is vital and Barry RFC ladies welcome any new players to training on Thursday evenings at Barry clubhouse, regardless of experience.

AM

Silver Ball draw made

THE draw for the Silver Ball quarter-finals has been made, and sees the following fixtures take place:

Rhydfelin v Ferndale; Caerphilly v Cefn Coed; Treorchy v Penalltal; Dinas Powys v Tondu.

The semi-finals will see the winner of the Rhydfelin v Ferndale game take on the winners of Caerphilly v Cefn Coed, while Treorchy or Penalltal will face Dinas Powys or Tondu in the other semi-final.

Dates and venues for these games are to be confirmed at a future date, but each game will be played on either March 8, 15, 22 and 29.

MIKE SULLY

LLANTWIT MAJOR & DISTRICT DARTS LEAGUE UPDATE

THE Llantwit Major and District Darts League season entered its 20th week with the highlights being:

Louis Holden 180 and 20 dart leg, Alf Sutton 20 dart leg, Will Cooke 19 dart leg, Tony Deacon 19 dart leg, Steve Davie 14 dart leg, Steve Price 80 out, Dan Powell 141 out and Callum Bracey 151 out to win his match in the Alec McGaw competition.

In the 'C' League the fight for second place couldn't be any closer with three teams tied on 126 points with the Wenvoe one point behind with 125 points.

The teams through to the Alec McGaw semi-finals on March 23 are Shoes Peterson (Steve, Mike, Fran, Alf); Wenvoe Arms 'A' 1 (Adam, Luke, Phil, Callum); Kings Head 'A1' 2 (Pete, Ben, Mike); Shoes St Athan 'C1' (Dave, Martin, Rob, Paul).

Monday Night 'C' League table: Lamb and Flag 'C1' 154, Boverton Castle 126, Lamb and Flag 'C2' 126, Shoes St Athan 126, Wenvoe Arms 125, Rugby Club 120, Kings Head 'C2' 109, Tudor Tavern 'C2' 95, Kings Head 'C1' 61, Tudor Tavern 'C1' 47.

Tuesday Night 'A' League table: Kings Head 'A1' 184, Wenvoe Arms 160, Fox and Hounds 134, Rugby Club 'A2' 128, Shoes St Athan 125, Golden Cups 122, Shoes Peterston 111, Four Bells 99, Lamb and Flag 94, Rugby Club 'A1' 90, Tudor Tavern 78, Blacksmith Arms 77, Kings Head 'A2' 75, Rugby Club 'A3' 63.

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THREE-SY DOES IT AS BARRY TOWN UNITED HOLD ON TO TOP SPOT!

AFTER a host of results went their way at the weekend, Barry Town United head into this Saturday's top of the table clash with Goytre at Jenner Park (2pm kick-off) hoping to extend their lead at the summit of Welsh League Division One.

While second-placed Goytre were edged out in a seven-goal thriller with Ton Pentre at Plough Road, Barry would run out comfortable 3-0 winners over Risca United at Ystrad Mynach's Centre for Sporting Excellence in what was the Town's fifth successive victory on their travels.

With manager Gavin Chesterfield sticking with the same team who had started the previous Saturday's 3-1 win at Caldicot Town, Barry's initial attempts would bear no fruit, as Risca, who are fighting to preserve their Division One status, survived efforts from TJ Nagi, Louis Gerrard and Callum Sainty.

Nevertheless, Barry's chance creation would pay off midway through the first half, as defender Luke Cooper rose to head home from a corner; breaking the deadlock in Barry's favour to the delight of the travelling supporters.

Making his 50th appearance for his hometown club, attacker Drew Fahiya gave the Cuckoos further cause for concern and it was the former Welsh Cup final goalscorer who set up the Town's second, Fahiya feeding full-back Paul Morgan, who duly doubled the visitors' advantage in the 39th minute.

The second half meanwhile was relatively event-free, with the young Risca United side performing above and beyond their league position, only to be unable to get past Barry Town goalkeeper Mike Lewis (who entered another strong performance between the sticks).

The former Aberystwyth number one has conceded merely 12 times across Barry's 18 league outings to date, helping the Town affirm their current position as the most robust defence in the division.

At the opposite end, the visitors looked to claim a killer third and it came in the 73rd minute, as Nagi netted his 12th goal of the campaign and his 85th for Barry in total, days ahead of his 28th birthday.

Seeing out the game in an effective and professional manner, Saturday was ultimately a comfortable win for Chesterfield's men, yet credit must go to the hard-working home side and the excellent team of officials from Ireland, who took charge of the match as part of a special refereeing exchange.

With all attention now switching to this coming Saturday's events, Barry will have been encouraged to learn that the sides in second, third and fourth place alike all dropped points last weekend.

Nevertheless, title-chasing rivals Goytre seemed poised to present one of the toughest challenges of the campaign this weekend, in what should be a highly-entertaining affair at Jenner Park.

Despite shipping three times as many goals as their Vale counterparts, Goytre are the division's top goalscorers, netting a total of 50 times in their 19 matches, ahead of the trip to Barry.

Gavin Chesterfield's team currently stand four points clear with a game in hand on their opponents and will look to extend the gap, while keeping their points advantage ahead of the chasing pack.

Finally, the Town's development team followed in the senior team's footsteps on Monday evening, recording a terrific away win at Merthyr Town in Welsh Premier Development League (South).

Mirroring the success of prolific first teamer Jordan, Kieran Cotterill set up Bradley Cotterill for both the Barry goals, on an evening that saw recovering favourite Lee Baldock continue his rehabilitation process with an effective 90 minutes at Penydarren Park.

Admission this Saturday for Barry vs Goytre is £5 at the Barry Road and Gladstone Road turnstiles, with the regular discounts for senior citizens, students and children. **AC**

MARTIAL ARTS INSTRUCTOR JEFF RECEIVES TOP AWARD

On Saturday, February 4, Bridgend-based martial artist and head instructor at Warriors kickboxing gym, Master Jeff Copp, received recognition for his continued contribution to the advancement of kickboxing in the UK.

Jeff pictured second right.

Accompanied by his son Lee Todd, also nominated for an award, Master Copp (7th Degree black belt) attended The WUMA (World United Martial Arts Federation) event held at Aston Villa Football Club to accept his entry into the prestigious UK hall of fame.

Barry-born Master Copp became interested in and has practised martial arts since the age of eight.

During time in the army he became involved in boxing and specialised in unarmed combat and weapons. He continued to develop his interest in martial arts and has trained in Tae Kwon Do, Korean Kickboxing, Shotokan and Shotokai.

Master Copp has achieved the status of 7th degree Black Belt demonstrating his lifelong commitment to martial arts and has been graded by Master Rhee Ki Ha, Master Ted Hopwood, Master Hee il Cho.

His sixth degree was by invitation only from Master Karel Van Orsouw and his seventh degree was awarded by the KMA (Kickboxing Wales) committee.

Master Copp has represented Welsh Kickboxing with WKA (World Kickboxing Association) and WPKA (World Pan Amateur Kickboxing Association).

He was a founding member of and sat on the board of directors with ISKA (International Sport Karate Association), an ex-committee member of ICO (International Combat Organisation) and spent two years on the World Championship Organising committee of the WPKA.

In 2001, Master Copp founded WKU (Welsh Kickboxing Union) his aim being to unite Welsh kickboxing clubs and to create the biggest and fairest association in the UK.

Currently there are 17 clubs in the association with more joining year on year.

Master Copp has trained many national and world champions over the years, many who have gone on to open their own clubs, and is highly respected amongst colleagues and students.

He continues to work hard providing local people of all ages and abilities with the facilities and opportunities to discover and develop their martial arts skills.

Most recently he took six students from Warriors gym to the WUMA British Samurai Open in Worcester on Sunday, February 19.

Bridgend Warriors fought through points and light continuous competitions to bring home a collection of trophies including: Diesel Jones, two golds (Points and light continuous); Ryan Peet, gold and silver (Bo Staff and Points); Diana Apperley, gold (Points); Ethan Ballinger, silver (Light Continuos); Ryan and Liam Reed both received medals (points).

We are privileged to have someone of Master Copp's experience and calibre teaching martial arts in Bridgend.

His dedication to his club and students is unmatched and unfaltering. At the age of 72 he drives from Barry most days to Warriors gym where he continues to help and encourage students develop and achieve their own martial arts goals.

Bridgend Warriors is situated above Sax nightclub in the old Bowlers space, a space which he has single-handly transformed from bowling alley into a first class, modern kickboxing and fitness gym.

His students are delighted that he has received this award and that his achievements have been rightly recognised by his peers.

For more information www.welshkickboxing.com or search Bridgend Warriors on Facebook. **DA**

TIM'S 6/1 WINNER AT NEWCASTLE

DADSINTROUBLE was a 6-1 winner of the £12,021 Pertemps Network Handicap Hurdle at Newcastle for Aberthin's Tim Vaughan last Saturday.

The seven-year-old course and distance winner, partnered by Alan Johns, came home two lengths ahead of the Linda Russell-trained Big River who was ridden by Tom Scudamore.

ISABEL'S HOWICK WIN IN LADIES RACE

Herefordshire born Richard Patrick, aged 21, rode his first hat-trick and then went on to ride his first four-timer at the well-attended Curre & Llangibby fixture which saw the start of the south and west Wales Point-To-Point season.

Richard, who has also chalked-up six winners under rules, took the members' race on Stony Road which he said jumped perfectly throughout, the confined race on Repeat Business, a division of the restricted on Desert Row, who like Repeat Business is trained by Jonathan Tudor, and a division of the maiden on the Patrick Hanly trained Barney Rubble.

Sadly, Stony Road who was winning the members' for the third successive year sustained an injury during the race and had to be put down. Stony Road was owned by the late Vale hunt-racing stalwart Mrs Jeanne Thomas.

There were 10 starters for the ladies' open race and the finish was fought out between two former useful National Hunt performers in Hold Court and Sir Du Bearn with victory going to the former, who was ridden by Llancarfan's Isabel Williams, the 19-year-old daughter of leading Welsh trainer and former national point-to-point champion rider Evan Williams.

There wasn't much between the winner and the runner-up four fences from home but Hold Court, trained by Isabel's mother Catherine, ran on gamely in the closing stages to win by four lengths from the favourite who was ridden by Jodie Hughes.

A delighted Isabel said: "That was just brilliant."

The biggest cheers of the day were for Carmarthen's Ben Jones, who, riding Gwyn Phillips' seven-year-old chestnut gelding Manhattan Mead, won the second division of the open maiden by half-a-length from Tim Vaughan's Moreece, partnered by Charlie Price, after the pair had jumped the last fence together.

Ben, aged 17, who is studying to be a farrier, is the son of former Welsh champion rider Dai Jones.

Earlier, Ben looked as though he was going to chalk-up his first winner on Shanks A Lot in the second division of the restricted as he was still in with a good chance on the pacemaking Shanks A Lot on the second circuit.

However, it was not to be as Hannah Lewis on AlfStar had them in her sight and went on to score by six lengths.

REALLY UNIQUE

Mike Bassett's 12-year-old Really Unique qualified for the Timico Mixed Open Final at Cheltenham on May 5 when landing the men's open race at the Curre & Llangibby Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases.

Well ridden by the Vale of Glamorgan's Byron Moorcroft, Really Unique led four fences from the finish to score by five lengths from the odds-on favourite TempleBraden, partnered by Zac Baker.

BRIAN LEE

Barry Seconds beaten by St Josephs

BARRY RFC second XV returned to league action as they hosted St Josephs on a damp Saturday afternoon.

With their squad decimated with injuries, players unavailable and players failing to turn up, coach Rhidian Scott was forced to recall former manager Ken Chow to pack down as hooker, alongside Liam Ring who started his first game of the season.

Ethan Dicks also returned to the starting line-up after over 12 months out, while George Chucas and Tom Ivins awaited their second XV debut from the replacement bench.

The opening omens were not good, as Barry indiscipline infuriated the referee with penalty following penalty. St Josephs built up sustained pressure and eventually it told with an unconverted try.

Barry did make inroads to the visiting defence, with Harry Moyle and Dicks especially effective in carrying.

Unfortunately they were continuously pegged back by a combination of lack of discipline and ruthlessness, and they returned empty handed after a foray into the opposition's 22.

The introduction of Chris Chucas injected some much needed urgency and pace in the home back-line, but it was in defence that organisation and application were sorely lacking, and as such St Josephs took full advantage to rack up 21 unanswered points.

At 24-0 down, it was looking ominous for the green and whites, who have had a poor run in the league anyway, but the players showed great heart and determination to rally and get themselves back into the game.

After some good ball retention in the St Josephs 22, the pressure finally told as Dicks crashed over under the posts. Joel Williams stroked over the extras to reduce the deficit.

At half-time stern words were exchanged and Barry started the second half like a team rejuvenated, putting the visitors under pressure straight from the off.

Following a series of penalties, Barry took advantage of their territorial superiority when a Dicks break was finished off by Owain Poole burrowing over. Williams failed to add the extras.

Sensing an unlikely comeback, Barry poured forward but some loose possession allowed the away team to counter-attack and score an unconverted try against the run of play.

Undeterred, the hosts continued their increased tempo and continued to camp at opposition territory, despite the game being progressively fragmented due to the referee's whistle.

Switching play from right to left, a bullocking run from Gareth Hall brought territory, and when Williams' pass out wide to Elliot Evans was knocked on deliberately by a St Josephs hand with just metres to go from the try line, a penalty try was the result. Williams added the extras to leave Barry 10 points behind.

The green and whites continued to batter at the visitors' door but were eventually beaten by some fine rearguard action and the final whistle.

It was pleasing to see that despite the disruptions to the preparations the 19 players who took the field wore the shirt with pride and, especially in the second half, showed the sort of determination and attitude that is required to turn the season around.

Barry second XV return to action on March 4 away at Rhiwbina.

Team: Robertson; E Evans, D Evans, Dicks, Gaskin; Williams (c), Leech; Ring, Chow, Such; Hall, Jones; J Chucas, Poole, Moyle. Replacements: Ivins, G Chucas, C Chucas, Bailey. Man of the match: Moyle.

KC

Club team up with Aero Bowls!

BARRY ATHLETIC Bowls Club and Aero Bowls UK have recently announced that they will work together in a strategic partnership to support the development of bowls in south Wales and the establishment of the Aero brand.

Aero Bowls will use the green and facilities at Barry Island to pilot an Aero Bowls Academy in south Wales, providing youngsters with the opportunity to enjoy a fun introduction to bowls from an early age, develop skills required to become proficient, and have the opportunity for personal coaching from the some of the very best players in the United Kingdom.

Further details about how to join in with this exciting initiative will be available when the new season is underway, and will be advertised widely with local clubs and on the club website.

To support the development of the Aero Brand, Barry Athletic Bowls Club will also make their facilities available as an Aero hub club for any new or existing bowler who want to experience the Aero products at first hand.

Commenting on the new partnership, Richard Bowen, chairman of Barry Athletic Bowls Club, said "We are delighted to have the opportunity to work with Aero Bowls on this exciting initiative, and we see it as an endorsement of our club and the first class facilities and green at Barry Island.

"I am confident that this will add to the profile of our club and provide a fantastic opportunity for new and existing bowlers of all generations to experience the enjoyment of bowls and the Aero products."

Details of the new Academy will be available on the Barry Athletic website (www.babc.co.uk) and via Aero Bowls (www.aerobowls.co.uk) for the start of the outdoor season.

Please also refer to the club's website for details on how to book to try Aero Bowls. In addition, plans for an Aero demonstration day in April at the club are already well advanced, and details for the first taster session are also available from the club website.

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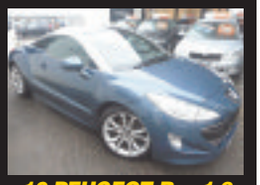

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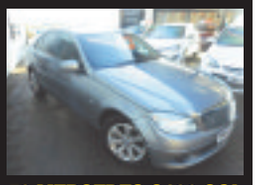

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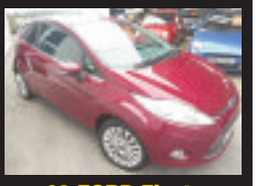

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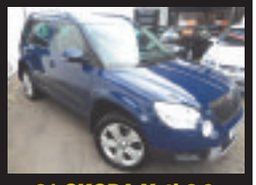

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Love is in the air for the Brynhill lady golfers..!

ON a very cold St Valentine's Day, the ladies of Brynhill Golf Club played 10 holes of golf, followed by a superb lunch supplied by our in-house caterers.

Our ladies captain, Mrs Olwyn Thomas, who was celebrating her birthday, awarded then winner Mrs Linda Hewlett (14 points) and runner-up Mrs Julie Harkin (13 points) with their prizes.

The afternoon concluded with jokes, supplied by Mrs Claire Herbert, a raffle and lots of laughter, as usual. **ET**

Barrivale Bridge Club round-up

LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club for February 14:

1st Jane Brook & Mick Green 57.50%; 2nd Jenny Vaughan & Denis Mottram 57.08%; 3rd Lyn Matthews & Alan Jones 54.17%. Debbie Dawkins and Sean Macdougall won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. A partner may be arranged if required.

If you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or 01446 735592 call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

Alternatively players, inexperienced or new, may attend on Fridays at 10am at the same address.

DR

glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Your chance to try handball

ELEVATE, a local charity, is running handball taster sessions at Cadoxton Sports Hall on Wednesday evenings, starting March 1, from 5pm to 6pm.

"Handball is like a combination of 5-a-aside football, Futsal, volley ball, basketball and netball all rolled into a fast moving one to end game," said Mark Nickerson, a volunteer coach and community sports lead at Elevate.

"At Elevate, we like to introduce new sports for young people to try, about eight years ago we launched Futsal in the Vale, and were the second organisation in south Wales to introduce rebounding to communities.

"We believe sport builds confidence, as well as physical health, the great thing about handball, is that's is an olympic sport, wouldn't it be great to sow the seed for an olympic handball player from the Vale," he added.

The taster sessions are for 13-16 year olds, held until Easter, run by qualified volunteer coaches who are DBS checked.

Elevate are keen to get an adult team as well as youth teams up and running. If you would like to know more, you can email Elevate at info@elevatekck.org, or follow them on their Facebook page, Vale Futsal and Handball.

KM

Young Vale girls will love fast-paced rugby with Phoenix Touch.

NEW GIRLS ONLY RUGBY

A NEW touch-rugby side is set to offer Vale of Glamorgan girls the chance to emulate their rugby heroes.

Phoenix Touch is a new girls-only side aiming to offer girls between the ages of 9-11 (school years 5 and 6) the opportunity to take part in a non-contact form of the popular sport.

The team is being set up off the back of the success of Atomic Touch, a fast-paced game that has similarities to touch rugby, netball and ultimate Frisbee.

Training for Phoenix Touch is set to take place every Monday – between 6.15pm-7.15pm – from Monday, March 6 at Stanwell School, Penarth.

The sessions will offer fun, skill-based activities in a friendly environment, one that aims to encourage more young girls to take part.

This falls in line with the Vale Council's Sports and Play Development team's 'Girls on the Move' scheme. The scheme aims to increase female participation in sport and exercise across the Vale, and has, up to now, introduced 'glowminton' (a twist on badminton that uses glow-in-the-dark shuttlecocks and rackets) and a girls-only running group in Penarth.

Coun Gwyn John, Vale of Glamorgan cabinet member for visible, leisure and regulatory services, said: "The 'Girls on the Move' scheme has brought great opportunities to young Vale girls looking to be more active, or join a friendly sports club.

"We are always looking to bring more sporting opportunities to residents and their children, and hope that the latest club – Phoenix Touch – will persuade more people to be active.

For more information on Phoenix Touch, or 'Girls on the Move', contact Sophie Wilkinson on slwilkinson@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

A golfing legend revisits Porthcawl

THE voice of golf, legendary commentator Peter Alliss, will delight and entertain in his own inimitable style live at the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl on Friday, March 3 at 7.30pm as he answers questions, shares stories, anecdotes and humour and gives his unique insight into the world of golf.

With his father, Percy Alliss, among the finest players of his generation, it was perhaps inevitable that Peter would also make a career in golf. Percy hired Peter as his unpaid assistant at Ferndown Golf Club, allowing him time off during midweek to compete in tournaments.

With some degree of success in his first professional tournaments, Peter Alliss quickly established himself among the top young players of the time.

Between 1954 and 1969, he won 21 professional tournaments – including three British PGA championships – and was twice winner of the Vardon Trophy. In September 1958, he won the national championships of Italy, Spain, and Portugal in three consecutive weeks.

His first appearance in the Ryder Cup was in 1953, and with the single exception of 1955, he represented Great Britain and Ireland in the event until 1969. He is one of only two father-and-son duos to have represented their country at this level.

He spent just six weeks on the American tour, in 1954, and therefore is known primarily as a commentator in the USA. Peter retired from the professional golf circuit in 1969.

"When it comes to painting a picture with words, he's nothing short of Rembrandt…" "Alliss (is) one of the finest strikers of the golf ball in the land…" *Daily Telegraph*

Tickets from £18 (includes booking fee), and group discounts of 10 tickets or more are also available, call the Box Office on 01656 815995 or book online at www.grandpavilion.co.uk.*

Cowbridge under-14s beaten by Penarth

The players struggled with the rain and strong wind.

IT was a bitterly cold Sunday morning when Cowbridge RFC under-14s and Penarth met on the Cowbridge first team pitch, in a strong wind with driving rain thrown in for good measure.

Despite making a strong start, Cowbridge quickly succumbed to Penarth's well-structured attacks, and cold hands were reluctant to make effective tackles, allowing Penarth three tries in the first half.

For Cowbridge, the second half was initially not a lot better. The under-strength team again gave the Penarth backs too much time on the ball and failed to capitalise on possession when gained through the hard work of their own forwards.

Cowbridge scored two well-taken consolation tries late in the second half to make the scoreline a little more respectable, but overall, it was the visitors who came out well on top.

It was a disappointing performance after recent successes.

It was fair to say that all parents and players alike were glad to hear the final whistle and take refuge in the warm clubhouse! **TD**

The Vale of Glamorgan Football League round-up

IT was another exciting weekend in the Vale football league saw some high scoring games, big results and a cup upset.

We start with that cup upset as St Athan shocked SWFA Alliance League side Cardiff Airport in the SWFA Intermediate Cup.

The two sides played out a thrilling 3-3 that went all the way to penalties with Jordan Mortimore (2) and Josh Morgan getting Saints goals.

In the shoot out Gareth Richards saved a penalty and Jonathan Ashton converted the decisive spot-kick to send St Athan into the quarter-finals and eliminate last season's Intermediate Cup runners-up and Vale League champions.

In the ASRS Cup Vale United cruised through into the semi-finals 5-1 against Barry Athletic, which sets up semi-final against St Athan.

In league action Masons Moving Group finally got their first win of the season at the 12th time of asking. Josh Bell, Lee Galsworthy, Luke Brody-miles, Paul Eveleigh and Jordan Yoeman notched for the home side in a 5-2 win against Dinas Powys Athletic.

The win is a credit to Masons who have endured a difficult season; Dinas however are in free fall, suffering their fifth league defeat in a row.

Elsewhere in the Premier Division, Tynewydd held Penarth Town with an impressive 2-2 draw. Rhoose went second as they put Cowbridge Town to the sword comprehensively 3-0, making it eight league games unbeaten. Rhoose go three points behind Vale United, although the leaders do have four games in hand.

In Division One Barry Athletic B kept up their table -topping form with their fifth league win on the bounce with a 4-1 win away to Dockers, Spencer Price, Linford Harris, Ben Graham and Dan Morgan with the goals; man of the match keeper Chris Simpson made a vital penalty save at 2-1.

Barry Belgrade lost ground on the leaders as they were held 3-3 by fifth-placed SP Billy. Sully continued their recent form as they disposed of Cogan 4-1 while Pumas stayed third after a goal crazy game winning 8-3 against Glenbrook. Cardiff Airport B edged out Cadoxton Athletic in a 5-4 thriller.

In Division Two Cadoxton Imps reclaimed top spot after a 6-1 victory over Pumas B while Barry Saints slipped up being held 3-3 by Rhoose B, who made it three games unbeaten.

Third place Penarth B closed the gap on second to six points with a game in hand after a 3-1 over Barry Albion, Albion's first league defeat of 2017.

It's a full league fixture list this weekend. Games of the day in each division look like being Rhoose vs Penarth, Sully vs SP Billy and Cadoxton Imps vs Rhoose B.

HD

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Bonus point victory for Cowbridge

LAST Saturday Cowbridge entertained league newcomers Cardiff Saracens at The Athletic Ground.

This was Cowbridge's first game since January 21, having narrowly lost their last two fixtures against top two Cefn Coed and Penygraig.

Despite their lowly position in the league,the Sarries have put up a good show in their recent matches.

On a perfect day for rugby Cowbridge were on the attack from the kick off with a series of penalties (as always, when there is a referee's assessor on the touchline the penalty count soars) and from a lineout in the visitor's 22 Craig Boxall ripped the ball from the ensuing maul to release the backs for centre Lindsay McCausland to sprint over in the corner, with full back Ben Wright converting superbly.

Despite the good start the Cowbridge scrum was under some pressure and as the penalty count rose the Sarries scored their first points after 15 minutes with a kick from the 22.

Cowbridge now had to defend for a long period as the Sarries pack upped the pressure but the Cowbridge defence held out with some strong tackling.

A fine clearance by fly half Alex Guard relieved the pressure but Cowbridge were let down by some sloppy play.

However, a couple of penalties took Cowbridge into the 22 and a tremendous drive from the lineout catapulted prop Sam Richards over the line for Cowbridge's second try.

The Cowbridge pack were now beginning to exert pressure on the visitors in the scrum and lineout and with just minutes to half-time a lineout on the 22 saw the ball pass through 11 pairs of hands before wing James Phillips sprinted over in the corner, making the half-time score Cowbridge 17, Cardiff Saracens 3

Despite being on top and scoring a penalty from Wright, Cowbridge were struggling to put together any meaningful passages of play in pursuit of the bonus point fourth try.

As tempers frayed a couple of skirmishes resulted in yellow cards for both sides.

Fortunately in the last 10 minutes Cowbridge started to piece together some powerful attacks. Centre McCausland burst out of the 22 and the backs took the ball up to the Sarries 22.

With the final whistle looming a good Cowbridge scrum released Guard who almost squeezed over, but the ball was recycled quickly and again excellent passing by the threequarters resulted in the powerful Pat George crashing over to secure the bonus point.

From the kick-off a couple of breaks by Hywel Williams and Wright took Cowbridge up to the halfway and the final whistle, the game ending 25-3.

Despite some scrappy play this was a well-deserved bonus point victory. Once the pack were on top Cowbridge controlled the game and the four tries were all crackers.

There is a break this weekend as Wales travel to Scotland, the game being shown at the clubhouse, and then the following week we travel to Tylorstown, and on March 11 we play Old Penarthians at home.

RV/RK

Cowbridge Darts League round-up

ON Tuesday, February 14, an evening of league matches was played.

In the local derby the league leaders Edmondes B just beat the Edmondes A 5-4. In this game James Rosser (Edmondes A) became the 13th player this season to hit a 180.

Llanharry defeated the other Edmondes Arms team, the Edmondes C, 6-3.

The toggling between the Six Bells Inn and the Highwayman Inn for second spot continues, this week going to the Highwayman Inn - winning 8-1 against the Red Lion, while the Six Bells Inn found it harder to overcome the Farmers Arms winning 5-4.

To complete the week 17 match results the Victoria Inn beat the Hairy Farmers 5-4, by winning all three doubles matches, so coming back from being 4-2 down at the end of the singles. In this match John Izzard (Hairy Farmers) won a leg in just seven darts.

Present league standings, after 17 weeks, are: Edmondes B (109 points), Highwayman Inn (98), Six Bells Inn (96), Edmondes A (84), Llanharry (79), Edmondes C (78), Hairy Farmers (71), Farmers Arms (68), Victoria Inn (66) and Red Lion (16).

Next week (Tuesday, February 28) it will be a busy evening of darts at Llanharry Workingmen's Club, when they host both the men's and ladies doubles knockout competitions.

All matches start at 8.15pm and spectators are always welcome.

For further information e-mail Paul at cowbridgedarts@gmail.com, up-to-date information can be found on the website: www.darts.apsn.co.uk.

PJT

Go to The GEM for the latest stories and breaking news... glamorgan-gem.co.uk

The Town's unbeaten run comes to an end

COWBRIDGE TOWN'S unbeaten league run came to an end last Saturday when they were beaten 3-0 away to AFC Rhoose in the Vale of Glamorgan Premier League.

The Town, with a umber of regulars missing, were still able to field a strong side but were unable to contend with a very well-organised and well-drilled opposition, who deservedly won the game.

In an unremarkable first half chances were few and far between, with most of the play taking place in the middle third of the pitch.

AFC Rhoose had one chance after 15 minutes when from a corner the ball reached their striker who from a yard out put the ball over the crossbar, much to the relief of the Cowbridge defence.

Then in the 25th minute a slightly deflected pass found the AFC number 9 in the box, and while trying to round the Cowbridge keeper he was brought down for a penalty that was converted with ease making it 1-0.

Cowbridge's only chance in the first half came after 30 minutes when a long ball from Hans Kennedy found Ryan Ashby, who had a one on one with the Rhoose keeper, but was unlucky with the bounce of the ball and could not get his shot off.

There were no changes in personnel at half-time, but a change in tactics with a move to a more conventional 4-4-2 formation.

Unfortunately the change had little effect as the Town chased the game and left themselves exposed to two breakaway goals.

Substitutions were made with Luke Degabrielle, Adam Bennet and new signing Josh Cane all coming on.

In a generally good-natured game a flare up between two players in the last few minutes saw both teams reduced to 10 men.

At the full-time whistle Cowbridge manager Andy Pinchbeck had to admit that we had been beaten by the better side on the day - "We need to improve before we meet them in the semi-final of the cup."

The Town have a free weekend this week, but are back in action the following week.

AP

Resilient Llantwit are defeated by leaders

LLANTWIT MAJOR RFC despite bravely battling throughout and being in control for much of this enthralling game ultimately succumbed to this impressive Cefn Coed Wolves outfit, losing 9-21.

The scoreline though did in no shape describe the events at the Recreation Ground as the Llantonians took on the league leaders.

One of the nagging problems this season for Llantwit is they have often under-performed in key fixtures and have been too lethargic in the first quarter of matches.

Well this certainly wasn't the case on Saturday when, spurred on by a passionate pre-match speech by captain Huw Williams, they hit the ground running smashing into the Wolves in tackles and runs with great ferocity and pace.

This then was naturally reciprocated by the visitors, leaving observers to wonder how an earth could these teams last the 80 minutes such was the impact they were making.

Llantwit were making charge after charge up the middle of the field with man of the match Damion Gardner-Ponting to the fore of these exchanges and it was only the strong defensive qualities of the visitors that kept them from scoring.

The first score came from the boot of Dan Powell after the Wolves were penalised for handling in the ruck, but the visitors soon replied with a kick of their own.

The game continued seesawing from one end to the other with great plays and outstanding ferocity by both sides.

Llantwit though were slowly gaining the upper hand and the pressure told as they were awarded several penalties; unfortunately the normally reliable boot of Powell was only able to add one further penalty from three attempts taking the score at half-time to 6-3.

The second half began in the same vein as the first as Llantwit again put immense pressure on the Cefn defence, with supporters thinking the defence surely must break as the Llantwit runners pushed the pace of the game on.

Eventually they did come away with another three points from Powell as Cefn were penalised for stopping youth player Iestyn Jones, who was making his first start at scrum half from taking a quick penalty.

As the game reached the 60 minute mark it did look as if the Llantonians were going to stay in front, such was their domination, but there is a reason Cefn Coed are top of the league and they just strangled the life out of the home side with their defensive line, which was often put on the backfoot but would just not buckle.

You could see that Llantwit were tiring and, spotting the weakness, Cefn quickly crossed for two converted tries to put themselves firmly in control.

Llantwit were now dead on their feet but were still not going to be counted out and remarkably came back into the game again as they peppered the Cefn line looking for a much-deserved try, with Josh Austin and Luke Dawes making several breaks which, just for the last pass, would have been rewarded.

As is often the case when you're trying so hard, a well-disciplined team will always hit back as the play becomes ragged and Cefn did having the final say, crossing again before the final whistle.

It would seem then by the scoreline that this was a comfortable win for Cefn but this was not the case and the visitors were quick to acknowledge this, stating the two hardest games of their season has been Llantwit home and away.

Cefn were undoubtedly the better team but individually Llantwit were not outclassed and matched the league leaders in every facet of play, something then for the team and coaches to work on for the future.

There is another break this week with Wales taking on Scotland in the Six Nations. All games will be shown at the clubhouse with three bars, the biggest screen in Llantwit and several other screens, all members and non members are welcome to attend.

Llantwit's next game is on Saturday, March 4 away to Tonyrefail.

AH

Howley & Co cannot afford any unforced errors against confident Scots

by Don John

AS Wales get set to break camp for the long trek north to the Scottish capital and the army of red-shirted followers that once amazed former head coach Graham Henry, again get set for their mass invasion of Murrayfield, both players and coaches can be in no doubt about the test that lies ahead on Saturday.

A resurgent Scottish side has already laid down its marker in this year's RBS Six Nations by overcoming pre-tournament co-favourites Ireland, and being desperately unlucky to lose against France.

The Welsh camp, in contrast, look back on a second half recovery that tipped the balance against battling minnows Italy, and a remarkable display against title favourites England in Cardiff that was undone by a late defensive lapse that failed to make the ball safe, but had its origins in baffling changes made from the bench that saw the most aggressively-dynamic player on the field, Ross Moriarty, who was scattering all before him, taken off early in the second half.

The decision badly hit Welsh forward momentum at a crucial stage, and contributed to heartbreaking defeat in the dying minutes of a knife-edge encounter.

Acting head coach Robert Howley and his fellow coaches will surely not want to make a similar mistake again...

They know they could come under almost as much scrutiny as the players in Edinburgh – with their seconded head coach, Warren Gatland, hovering in the background and keeping a watchful brief, as he compiles his British & Irish Lions' tour squad.

The proud Kiwi will not want to see any worsening of his proud record of 9 wins in the last 10 clashes between the two sides since he took charge in Grand Slam year 2008.

The Welsh camp will be encouraged, though, by the overall statistics that show Wales have won 13 of the last 14 clashes, both home and away, between the two nations.

In fact, the Dragon has triumphed in 70 of the 121 meetings since 1883, compared to Scotland's 48, with just three matches drawn, and amassed a total of 1,611 points, to Scotland's 1,234.

While the Scots have won 32 of the 60 matches played on their home soil, Wales have tasted success on no fewer than 25 occasions there, but they have generally been close-fought affairs:

Two years ago, the Dragon scraped home 23-26; last year in Cardiff it was 27-23. This year should be no different, and the Scots will be out to underline their renaissance under their head coach, New Zealander Vern Cotter, who steps down at the end of this Six Nations campaign.

Wales will be hoping to replicate the impressively-committed display that came so near to overturning the English chariot – and that should be enough to see off a tough Scottish challenge – while the travelling fans will be hoping there is no repeat of those unforced errors to spoil the day!